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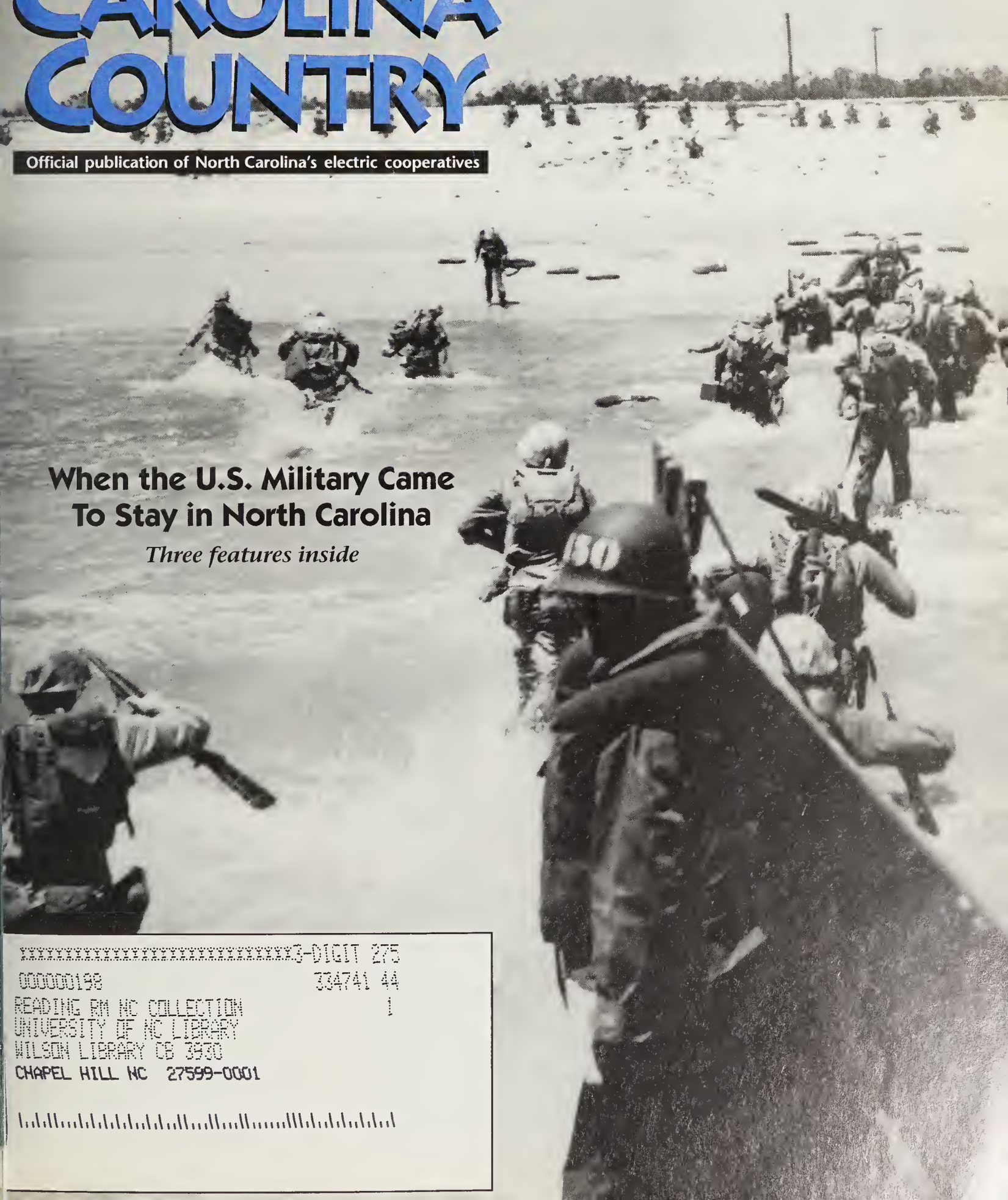
Volume 29, No. 4, April 1997

How to Use a Portable Generator

Pages 16-17

CAROLINA COUNTRY

Official publication of North Carolina's electric cooperatives



When the U.S. Military Came To Stay in North Carolina

Three features inside

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What Would You Do With An Extra $3,600 to $12,000 per year?

How to Get a Fast Mortgage Loan To Pay Off All Your Bills**

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Rockingham, N.C. - Ray and Becky were frustrated. They'd bought the house 12 years ago and it was five years old when they moved in. Beeky laughed out loud when she thought baek to that time. Back then it seemed so big and beautiful. But now, 12 years and 3 kids later, the house felt small and run down. The house needed a new roof and her two youngest girls, Emily and Katie, were doubling up in the small 10 x 12 bedroom.

Five years ago, Ray and Beeky had a contractor come and talk to them about a new addition. Becky remembered how excited she and Ray both were. They even paid to have the plans drawn up. But that was the year before Ray lost his job at the plant. She poured herself another cup of coffee and recalled how depressed they both were. It was over a year before he got another job. And during that time, they got behind on everything.

No Summer Vacation

They were so strapped for money one summer, they couldn't even take Emily and Katie to the beach for a few days for their annual vacation. Sure they finally got all eaught up when Ray went back to work, it took them two years and by that time it had ruined their previously perfeet eredit record, it was a vicious cycle. You know, getting paid on Friday, sitting down on Saturday to pay bills and running out of money before all the bills are paid.

"I Hit A Brick Wall"

After they got caught up they tried again to borrow the money for the addition. First they got turned down by the local bank, then a mortgage company in town rejected them. They just kept hitting the same brick wall. Even though Ray had gone back to work in another carpet mill making MORE money, the late payments that showed up on his credit reports scared the local banks and mortgage companies away. Ray felt like he was working JUST to pay his monthly bills and doing nothing for himself, Becky or the kids. Then he ran into Harvest Mortgage Company. Harvest helped him get a loan to pay off all his bills and consolidate everything into one single payment that was $358 lower than he had been making. That saved him a whopping $4,296 per year, TAX FREE. In the first year, that was enough money to close in the back porch, AND enough left over for new bikes for the kids.

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Volume 29, No. 4, April 1997

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North Carolina's electric cooperatives provide reliable, safe and affordable electric service to 700,000 homes, farms and businesses in North Carolina. The 28 electric cooperatives are each member-owned, not-for-profit and overseen by a board of directors elected by the membership.

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Volume 29, No. 4, April 1997

CAROLINA COUNTRY

Around the Bases

A look at North Carolina's military bases – their history, impact and influence.

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It's valued at $6 billion and affects nearly every county in the state. Carla Burgess profiles the six big bases and reports on their economic influence.

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Kim Whorton tells of her family's half-century of service to Cherry Point's Naval Aviation Depot, the largest civilian employer east of I-95.

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On the Cover
Practicing for Normandy and Iwo Jima, Camp Lejeune Marines storm the beaches of Onslow County, about 1942. See more pictures in David Cecelski's historical photoessay, pages 10-12. (Photo courtesy of the North Carolina Collection, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.)

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Emergency generators: Lifeline or end of the line?

by Lloyd H. Lee

In March 1993, after the "Storm of the Century," crews from Tideland EMC hooked up a generator for a customer in Pamlico County. It's not something we ordinarily do in the midst of widespread outages, but in this case the customer was blind.

I mention this to illustrate a concern all electric cooperatives share: most homeowners are blind to the lethal dangers of an emergency generator.

That's why this issue of Carolina Country includes an invaluable guide to the safe use of portable generators (see pages 16-17). I urge everyone to consider this information carefully.

Following the hurricanes of 1996, Tideland EMC was not the only cooperative to notice an increased use of portable generators. Unfortunately we don't always know where those generators are located, nor if they are being properly operated.

The mere thought of an emergency generator in the hands of the average homeowner sends chills up the spine of a lineman. Why? Because a generator that's hooked up to your breaker box can backfeed through electric lines. Once it passes through a transformer it is stepped up to a minimum of 4,160 volts. That puts electric workers at risk of electrocution as they restore power. If lines have been down or pulled away from the sides of buildings, the general public is at risk as well.

Electric cooperatives understand the safety and economic reasons to power up certain appliances during a prolonged outage. We are not discouraging you from using a portable generator. But we do want you to use it safely for the protection of everyone involved.

Furthermore, I encourage you to purchase and install a carbon monoxide detector if you think you will have occasion to use an emergency generator. After Hurricane Fran, at least dozen people were transported to Duke Medical Center for carbon monoxide poisoning because they failed to properly vent generator fumes.

Please notify your electric cooperative when you purchase a portable generator, whether it's for your house, farm or recreational purposes. It is important for us to know where they are.

When it comes to emergency generators, one thing is clear: they can be a lifeline during a crisis, or an obituary line when used improperly.

Lloyd H. Lee is general manager of Tideland Electric Membership Corporation, serving 16,000 member-owners in Beaufort, Craven, Dare, Hyde, Pamlico and Washington counties.

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Carolina Country magazine is available monthly to members of the electric cooperatives listed below. If you are a member of one of these cooperatives but do not receive Carolina Country, you may request a subscription by calling Member Services at the office of your cooperative.

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Davidson EMC .....(704-249-3131)
Edgecombe-Martin EMC .....(919-823-2171)
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And the winner is Reneé Berchtold

The puzzle contest in February's "Joyner's Corner" attracted 625 responses. That's huge, considering that the "Value of Valentine" puzzle was one of the most difficult we've run. The submission from Reneé Berchtold of Ellenboro was selected at random and we have sent the $25 prize. See the solutions on page 31.

Pam Tesh of Lexington said the problem took her a couple of fun hours to solve. Ed and Annie Mary Luke of Wagram said they each completed it in less than 30 minutes. Several participants asked us to continue publishing difficult problems, so we will. Charles Joyner tells us that this month's "DomiNo.s" is a real mind-bender.

Lighthouse license plates

Dale Diver of Durham wrote by e-mail to ask if the Cape Hatteras lighthouse license plates are still available from the state Division of Motor Vehicles. They are indeed. About 400 are on the road already. Of the $50 fee, $20 benefits the new Graveyard of the Atlantic Museum in Hatteras. You can get an application from the DMV or the Graveyard of the Atlantic Museum, P.O. Box 191, Hatteras, NC 27943. Phone: (919) 986-2995.

Looking for moon & star watermelon

Does anyone have watermelon seeds to sell or share? I am looking for the yellow flesh "moon and star" (I have two varieties of the red flesh). Also does anyone have or know of a type of watermelon that will outgrow the "Carolina cross?"

Nancy J. Stanley
1864 Bethany Ford Rd.
Roaring River, NC 28699

Such People Shall Live

Between 1939 and 1943, the U.S. Government moved hundreds of farmers and entire communities to make way for Camp Lejeune, Cherry Point, Camp Davis and the expansion of Fort Bragg [see pages 10-12]. While researching the era, I found this memorable vignette by Sam Ragan in the Beaufort News of July 3, 1941. Ragan was only a cub reporter in those days, but he later became a legendary newspaper publisher and the state's poet laureate. He is describing the founding of what is now the Kellumtown community outside of Camp Lejeune.

— David Cecelski, Durham

by Sam Ragan

Once in a while a person gets to see things — really important basic things that are part of the people. Things that mean more than the present existence and the sweating and groveling for bread. The untrammeled mind believes — believes in things that are greater and beyond the man. We see such things some times.

I saw that thing — the basic thing — one day last week. It was manmade but alive — alive in the pine woods of Onslow County. It was a church.

It was not a church like most of us think of them being. It was merely a few benches placed under the pine trees, a few boards tacked to the trees for support, a pulpit on the ground and a cross — a white cross that was erected over the heads of the worshipers.

This church had been erected by fifteen negro families who had moved from their homes in the Marine base area to a cow pasture belonging to Raymond Kellum near Hubert.

These negro families had moved out of their homes on a Saturday night and, without places of shelter and but little food, their first act was to build a church. On Sunday morning the bell that had once hung in their church pealed forth through the woods and the little band gathered on the carpet of pine needles for a service of worship.

Like the Pilgrim Fathers, the worship of God was their first act and thought. "We had to ask Jesus to help us," one colored woman said.

Now these families — there are about 75 people in all — have started building rude shacks for shelter. Few if any have jobs. The government has taken their land. Existence is a question. But they have their church — the sky is the ceiling and the earth is the floor — but it is something to believe in. Such people shall live.

Lighthouse cut down to size

The picture we published of the "lighthouse in a bottle" made by Charles Hand of Canton ["Commentary," March 1997] shows his scale model of the Cape Hatteras lighthouse, but it's not as big as we said it is. It's actually made to the scale of 1 inch to 100 feet, not 1 inch to 100 inches. Ours would have put Mr. Hand working on the lighthouse inside a bottle 25 feet high.

Readers may contact the Ships-in-Bottles Association, c/o Don Hubbard, Box 180550, Coronado, CA 92178. Annual dues are $18.

Pineapple cake recipe is OK

A few readers have asked our "Carolina Kitchen" editor, Monica Russell, whether something was missing from the Pineapple Pound Cake recipe published in March. The answer is no. Monica checked with Connie Spicer of State Road, who submitted the recipe, and learned that what we published is complete. We've also been treated to two very tasty versions of the cake made by staff members here at the electric cooperatives' statewide office. Monica advises cooks to use Crisco solid shortening and not too much pineapple liquid when preparing the cake.

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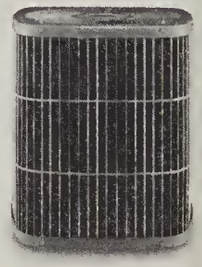

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Valued as a $6 billion influence, the U.S. armed forces are woven into the state's social and economic fabric

The Military Presence in North Carolina

Sgt. Lance M. Bacon

Camp Lejeune Marines in the trenches

Fort Bragg photo

The 82nd Airborne airborne over Fort Bragg.

by Carla Burgess

If it's difficult to imagine North Carolina's landscape without tobacco fields, then it ought to be harder to envision the same region minus air fields, drop zones, bombing ranges and tank trails. Yet those of us who don't live near a military base can easily overlook their profound presence in our state.

In truth, the combined armed forces in North Carolina is a behemoth that would slay the state's cigarette crop in a battle of dollars and cents.

"There's a lot of talk about the state's $1 billion tobacco industry, but the military has an almost $6 billion direct impact on the economy," says Gov. Hunt's military liaison and retired Marine Col. Dave Jones. "A lot of people take that for granted."

A 1995 study of the financial impact of military forces in the Tar Heel State pinned a $5.6 billion figure on the direct economic benefits derived in a year's time from payroll, operations, retiree spending and contracts awarded in North Carolina counties, says Dick Brockett, associate director for economic development at the East Carolina University Regional Development Institute. Indirect "spinoff" benefits — jobs and earnings that are created because of direct input of dollars — contributed another $6.4 billion to the state's coffers.

After reviewing a 500-page Pentagon printout of contracts let throughout the state for everything from shoes and uniforms to food and equipment components, Brockett was surprised to discover only a handful of North Carolina's 100 counties not on the list.

"I had the prevalent attitude most people had — that just counties that were home to military type operations were the primary beneficiaries," he says.

To compile the data, researchers looked at the state's six major military installations and their enlisted and civilian personnel, including North Carolina's two oldest institutions, Fort Bragg and nearby Pope Air Force Base (Fayetteville region), as well as the World War II-era installations, Camp Lejeune Marine Corps Base and New River Marine Corps Air Station in Onslow County, Seymour Johnson Air Force Base in Goldsboro and Cherry Point Marine Corps Air Station in Havelock. The study also included monetary influence of the Coast Guard Support Center near Elizabeth City and two military-related entities: the Army Corps of Engineers headquartered in Wilmington and an army ammunition loading depot near Southport (Sunny Point).

Besides the ripple effect that makes the state's communities more financially prosperous, the military also puts tens of thousands of Tar Heel civilians directly on their payrolls. These jobs have a profound influence in eastern North Carolina, says Jones, who cites the Naval Aviation Depot, an aircraft overhaul facility at Cherry Point, as the largest employer of civilians east of I-95. Four thousand civilians find work there at an average annual salary of $38,000.

Another auxiliary benefit the military provides is a highly skilled work force of former military personnel whose subsequent residence in an area attracts industry to a region, says Susanne Sartelle, president of the Greater Jackson-ville/Onslow Chamber of Commerce. Sartelle largely credits the military for the recent location to Jacksonville of a Fortune 500 company.

An interwoven community

Although not as quantifiable, the military also makes its presence felt in ways that transcend money and the physical boundaries of the base or station. The armed forces that call North Carolina home are inextricably woven into the social fabric of the community. For example, of Camp Lejeune's 19,000 families, only 4,000 live in quarters on base.

"The Persian Gulf war really drove home the point that the members of the military here are not just Marines and sailors," says Sartelle. "They are our neighbors, our friends, our little league coaches, even our Sunday School teachers. We're one community; it's just that some folks dress differently than others to go to work."

Recently, the state's looming military presence helped distinguish North Carolina in another socially relevant way — placing Jacksonville and Fayetteville on the Top 5 list of the most racially integrated U.S. cities. A University of Michigan study, made public in January, named Jacksonville as the least segregated city in America; Fayetteville ranked as the fourth least segregated city. Using Census Bureau statistics, the study's author, Reynolds Farley, examined housing patterns within neighborhoods, ranking as least segregated those cities with fewer definable "all-white blocks" and "all-black blocks." He found higher rates of integration in cities where the armed forces provide the bulk of the economic base.

Although some state and regional spokespeople, including Jones and Sartelle, make a leap from "least segregated" to "least racist," Farley cautioned against such interpretations after the release of his study. In news reports, he attributed the higher integration rates in the South more to an infusion of new construction and housing than to less bigotry.

In fact, today's celebrated military melting pots stand in sharp contrast to the racially discriminatory climate that ousted a disproportionate number of rural Southern blacks from their homes and communities — with little warning or compensation — to make way for military boomtowns 50 years ago. (See "The Home Front's Dispossessed," by historian and Craven County native David Cecelski, Southern Exposure magazine, Summer 1995.)

However, the view today, as Col. Jones describes it, is that "the military, despite all the press to the negative, is at the cutting edge of all the social issues, including integration."

Carla Burgess is a writer based in Raleigh.

N.C. Military Bases at a Glance

Base	*Direct local economic impact*	*Active duty personnel*	*Family/ dependents*	*Civilians employed*
Fort Bragg & Pope Air Force Base	$1.5 billion	49,000	77,000	10,501
Camp Lejeune Marine Corps Base & New River Marine Corps Air Station	$1.3 billion	42,000	57,000	4,800
Seymour Johnson Air Force Base	$250 million	4,399	6,949	1,200
Cherry Point Marine Corps Air Station	$506 million	7,863	29,335	6,048

Fort Bragg

Originally Camp Bragg, 1918.
142,125 acres, about 10 miles west of Fayetteville.
Named for Confederate Gen. Braxton Bragg, a North Carolinian and artillery officer. Home to the Army's only Airborne Corps, the XVIII; the 18,000 paratroopers of the 82nd Airborne Division; the elite Special Forces and the Army's largest Support Command. The "jumpingiest" post in the army hosted its first jump in 1923 when a parachutist jumped from a military artillery observation balloon during a Fourth of July demonstration. Fort Bragg and nearby Pope AFB form one of the world's largest military complexes.

Pope Air Force Base

Opened 1919.
1,900 acres, adjacent to Fort Bragg 12 miles northwest of Fayetteville.
One of the oldest installations in the Air Force, Pope provides critical support to Fort Bragg's Airborne. Named after 1st Lt. Harley Pope, who was killed on Jan. 7, 1919, when his Jenny crashed into the Cape Fear River near Fayetteville. Initially, balloons and handmade single engine biplanes were stationed at Pope. Aerial bombing was first practiced here in December 1927 when Maj. Carol Spaatz led a squadron of bombers to hit a condemned bridge on the Pee Dee River 70 miles west of Fayetteville.

New River Marine Corps Air Station

Formerly Peterfield Point, 1944.
2,772 acres, south of Jacksonville.
Provides a major supporting role to Camp Lejeune with its troop transport helicopters, observation aircraft and heavy lifting capabilities.

Camp Lejeune Marine Corps Base

Originally Marine Barracks, New River, 1941.
153,439 acres, east of Jacksonville.
Camp Lejeune and the next-door Marine Corps Air Station at New River represent the largest concentration of Marines and sailors anywhere. With five major Marine Corps and two Navy commands, these "expeditionary forces in readiness" can deploy anywhere in the world at a moment's notice. The base's first warehouse was a converted tobacco barn; its headquarters, a summer cottage. Renamed in 1942 for the 13th commandant of the Marine Corps, Lt. Gen. John A. Lejeune. Lejeune's forest management program is the largest in the Marine Corps. Over $1 million in profits from the harvest and sale of timber have been donated to Onslow County schools during the past decade.

Seymour Johnson Air Force Base

Activated in 1942.
4,113 acres, within Goldsboro city limits.
An Air Combat Command installation and home to the 4th Fighter Wing that spearheaded nighttime strikes against Iraq on Jan. 16, 1991, during the Persian Gulf War. Named for Goldsboro native and Navy Lt. Seymour Johnson, who was killed in an aircraft crash in 1941. The base was inactivated in 1946 and remained closed for a decade until community leaders prompted reopening in April 1956. Supplementing the work force at Seymour Johnson are more than 500 inmates of a minimum security prison camp constructed in 1991.

Cherry Point Marine Corps Air Station

Opened 1942.
About 28,000 acres, adjacent to the town of Havelock.
Commissioned as Cunningham Field in 1942 for the Marine Corps' first aviator, Lt. Alfred A. Cunningham. Cherry Point is the world's largest Marine Corps Air Station and is known as the best all-weather jet base.

Population and acreage statistics were provided by the respective installations' public affairs offices and are subject to fluctuate. The source of economic impact estimates was "Study of Military Economic Impact on North Carolina," published by ECU Regional Development Institute in April 1995. That study relied primarily on 1994 expenditure data.

Back to the Bases, 1939-1943

When the U.S. military built its big bases in eastern North Carolina, the life and landscape of the coastal plain changed forever

A photoessay by David Cecelski

As late as 1939, eastern North Carolina remained mired in the Great Depression. It was a rural country of remote fishing villages, small dirt farms and timber camps. Huge bands of migrant workers tramped from crop to crop. The outside world reached fishing villages only with the arrival of the daily mailboat.

Everything changed with the coming of World War II. In the aftermath of Pearl Harbor, the U.S. Government built three of the largest military bases in the United States in a swampy tract stretching across Craven, Onslow and Pender counties. The war board condemned more than 175,000 acres to build Camp Lejuene, the Cherry Point Marine Corps Air Station, and Camp Davis. Tens of thousands of construction workers moved from site to site. Because of a lack of housing, workers lived in tobacco barns and attics in local homes.

The first tents at Camp Lejeune, 1942. (Courtesy of the North Carolina Collection, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.)

Overnight cities rose out of the swamps. Holly Ridge, a rural crossroads in Pender County, grew in a few months into the third largest city in North Carolina. The former train depot at Havelock and the small towns of Jacksonville and Goldsboro also boomed. By the end of 1942, the entire coastal plain had been classified a "labor shortage zone." The Great Depression seemed a distant memory.

The small towns of eastern North Carolina could barely contain this cataclysm. Crowds had to rent rooms by the shift. Local residents rented out their pantries and living rooms. New types of housing — the mobile home and an early version of "public housing" — were created to help accommodate them. War planners could not keep pace with the skyrocketing demands. A lack of rationing allocations even led to food shortages and hunger protests.

The boomtown atmosphere also attracted hucksters, swindlers and speculators. Cherry Hill, an infamous redlight district in Kinston, moved wholesale to Jacksonville. The local bootlegging industry had thrived during Prohibition, but now "CCC" (Craven County Corn) gained national renown. A new kind of nightlife, typified by the raucous Bucket of Blood Cafe in downtown Holly Ridge, appeared in our rural, Bible Belt communities.

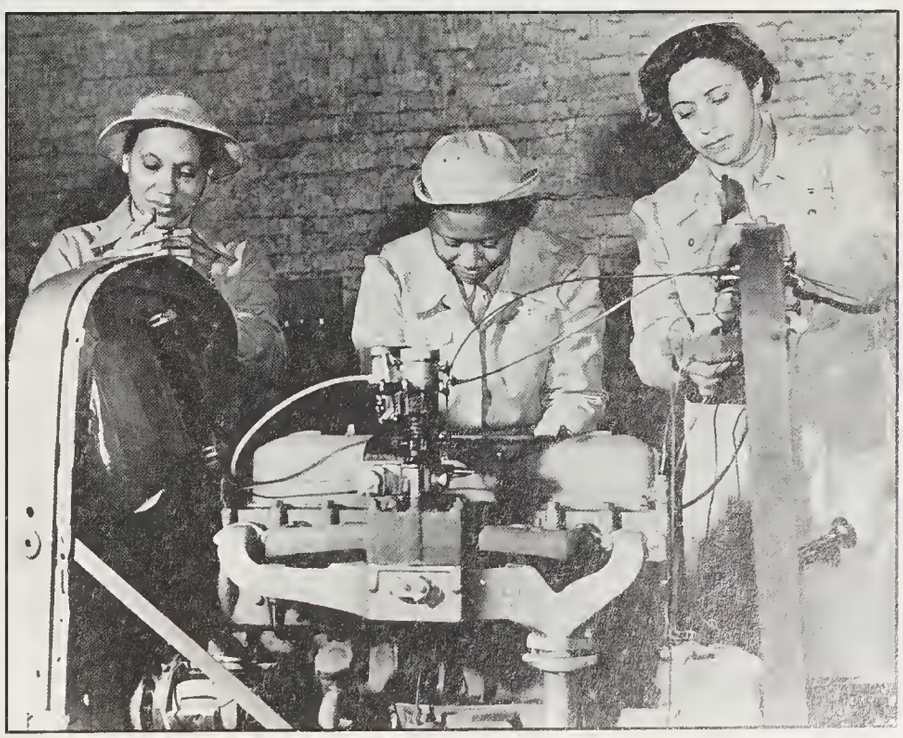
The war-time boon also created a rich cultural "melting pot" unprecedented in Southern history since colonial times. Soldiers of every ethnic, religious and racial background came with the Armed Forces and many would marry local women and become a new, welcome part of North Carolina's cultural heritage.

The carpenters who built Camp Davis (May 1941). Between 1940 and 1942 thousands of carpenters, masons, and other builders constructed Camp Davis, Camp Lejeune, Seymour Johnson and Cherry Point, and considerably enlarged Fort Bragg. Many workers commuted weekly from rural hamlets and towns as far away as Raleigh. (Courtesy of Elizabeth Cavanaugh Simpkins and the Onslow County Museum.)

Bayonet and judo training at Montford Point, Camp Lejeune, 1942. Among the soldiers flocking to North Carolina were the first African Americans to serve in the Marine Corps. Trained on a racially-segregated part of Camp Lejeune called Camp Montford, they later served with distinction around the world. After they returned home from fighting for freedom abroad, many of these WWII veterans renewed their commitment to freedom and spearheaded the civil rights movement in America. (Courtesy of the N.C. Division of Archives and History.)

Dr. David Cecelski is a historian and writer from eastern North Carolina. He directs an oral history project on coastal life during World War II at the Southern Oral History Program, at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and is also teaching history this year at Duke University. He is the author of the prize-winning book "Along Freedom Road" and many articles about coastal history.

Mercedes Jordan, Carrie Hamilton and Wilmett Grayson. Thousands of WACs (Women's Army Corps) and civilian women left eastern North Carolina's tobacco farms and small towns to work at military bases. With the manpower shortage so severe, the military bases trained thousands of women as aircraft machinists, electricians, welders, painters and in other skilled jobs not traditionally held by women. (Courtesy of the N.C. Division of Archives and History.)



Camp Davis, March 15, 1941. This is the view of Camp Davis only three months after construction started. Camp Davis, an Army airfield, was built around the small town of Holly Ridge in Pender County, and also included Topsail Beach. The camp was decommissioned after the war.

Around the GIs' tents, tens of thousands of civilian workers constructed eastern North Carolina's military bases. At Camp Davis, they constructed 20,000 buildings in a single year. At Cherry Point Marine Corps Air Station, they laid endless miles of concrete for one of the largest runways in the world. They constructed thousands of miles of roads, water and sewage systems, and electric generating plants. They also dredged harbors and brought electric and telephone lines into many parts of eastern North Carolina that had never known them. Rural life would never be the same.

Holly Ridge went form boomtown to ghost town. When the Army realized the anti-aircraft training facility had been designed for WWI fighting conditions, not WWII's, the new city was abandoned. The vacant streets and a few of the old brick buildings still stand in the middle of Pender County. Tens of thousands of housing units were auctioned off and can still be seen on many a North Carolina backroad. (Courtesy of the North Carolina Collection, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.)

Checking the engine of a Curtis A-25-A at Army Air Field, Camp Davis. The Army Air Force in 1942 created the Women's Auxiliary Ferrying Squadron (WAFS) for noncombat, but dangerous missions of ferrying and towing aircraft. The WAFS merged with the Women's Flying Training unit and was re-named Women Airforce Service Pilots or WASP. (Courtesy of the N.C. Division of Archives and History.)

The Coast Guard cutter "Spencer" picks up German U-boat survivors. In 1942 German U-boats destroyed more than 140 merchant vessels along a treacherous section of the North Carolina coast that came to be known as "Torpedo Junction." The government did not permit the media to report these attacks to the rest of the nation, but local people could see the ships burn offshore at night. They listened to shore batteries fire blindly into the sea, and they discovered the bodies of the dead on their beaches. Local fishermen were often recruited to patrol ocean waters in search of submarines and survivors. By 1943, Coast Guard and Navy outposts dotted every few miles of our coast, and better U-boat defenses began to turn the tide in their favor. (Courtesy of the N.C. Division of Archives and History.)

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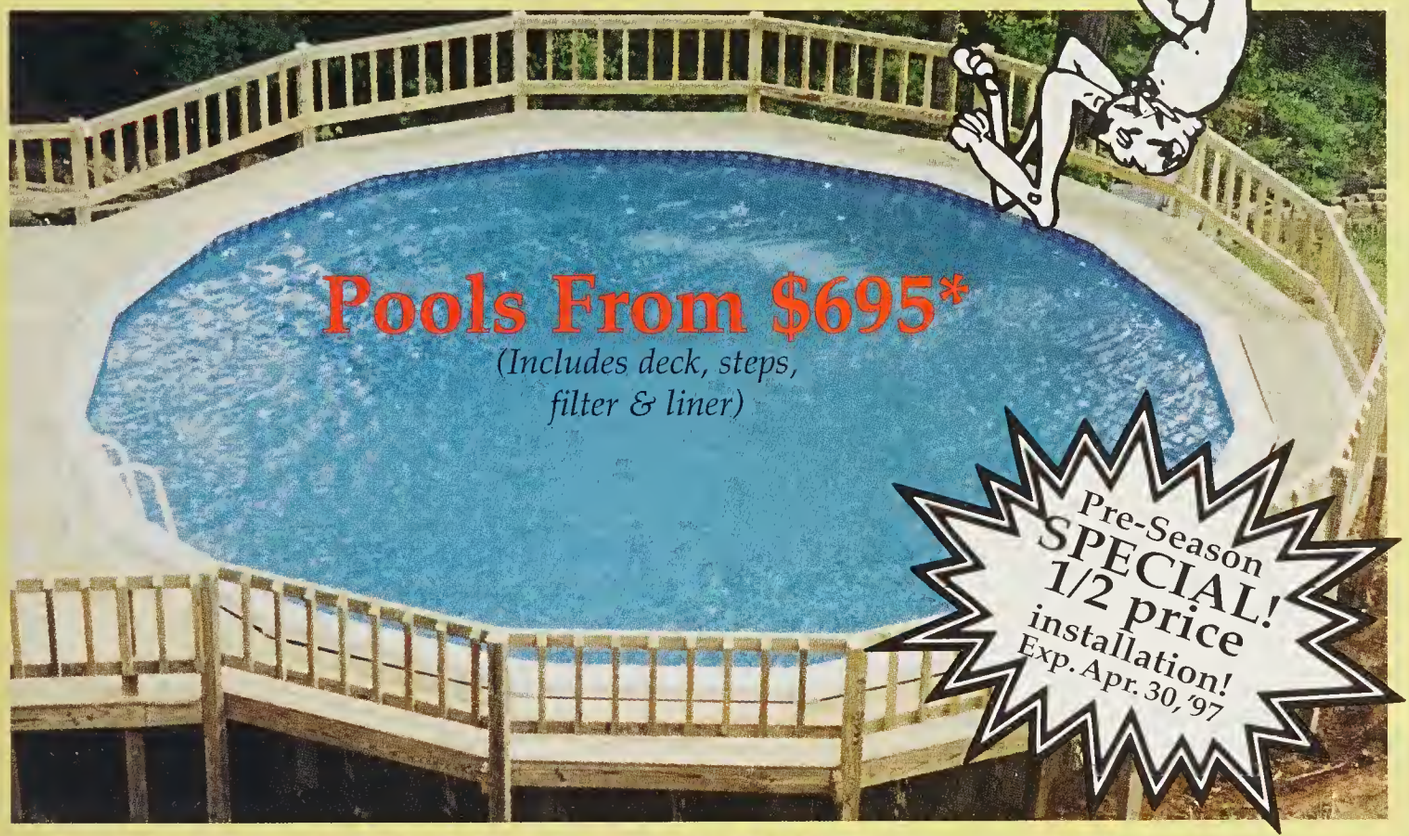

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Dad directs the Quality & Evaluation Division.

My dad and granddad on the ferry that takes them to Cherry Point.

A Family's Affair at Cherry Point

by Kim Whorton

When you talk about the military's effect on eastern North Carolina, you talk about my family. The Marine Corps Air Station at Cherry Point has been a virtual member of our family since before I was born.

My father has worked there his entire adult life. So did my grandfather. Together they've clocked a half-century's service at Cherry Point, and they're still counting

My dad is Larry Whorton, known at MCAS Cherry Point as "Pete," for some reason. My grandfather Whorton is "S.G." (born Stephen George, though no one ever called him that). They have been part of the stream of commuters and car-poolers who make their way around or across the Neuse River to Cherry Point each day. S.G. is retired now, but Dad is still in that car pool.

Cherry Point is home to the Naval Aviation Depot (NADEP), a tenant on the MCAS Base in Havelock that employs more than 4,000 civilians, nearly all of whom come from the neighboring counties of Craven, Carteret, Jones, Onslow and Pamlico. It's the only naval air rework depot in the country that's managed by the Marine Corps. Its main business is to overhaul and repair Navy aircraft ranging from H-46 and H-53 helicopters to the Marines' advanced A-8 Harrier.

And for that you need a lot of workers.

My granddad will be happy to tell you that a good job is hard to find in rural North Carolina. He'll tell you that and a whole lot more.

He and my grandmother, Wilma, were born and raised in the community of Florence, just down the road from Whortonsville, deep in Pamlico County. Theirs is the first house you see after you pass the sign that says "Welcome to Florence."

My grandmother worked briefly during World War II, but then settled in at home to raise her three boys. S.G. in the early 1940s fished the waters that surround Pamlico. At one time, he says, he could bring in 50 or 60 tubs of oysters a day. Those tubs, he explains, hold five pecks compared to a bushel that yields only four. He sold a tub of oysters for $1.

For awhile he worked for Barber's Boat Works in New Bern more than 30 miles away. As the war ended, business there slowed and my grandfather and many others were laid off.

Then on August 9, 1950 he landed a job in the MCAS's Public Works section. "I just struck it at the right time one year when they had an opening for workers," S.G. said.

To get to the base 51 miles away, he would leave home at 5:45 a.m. and join his carpool of six to 12 Pamlico residents. At 5:30 each evening ("You could've set the clock by it"), he would return home.

"It was definitely a good place to work, no doubt about it," Grandad told me in his jovial low-land brogue. "Salaries were better there. It was the only secure job with benefits you could get."

Grandad was promoted to a supervisory position, but he didn't like it. "I was an outdoors type of guy. Sitting in the office it seemed like the clock would go ahead a little bit and then run backwards." He sacrificed the "boss man" job to rejoin the crew.

After he retired on Feb. 12, 1979, he said, "some of the boys asked me how long it took me to get used to not doing it and I told 'em 15 minutes." And he laughs.

"Most of the people down there where I worked got transferred here and yonder," he said. "But from the day I went there until the day I left, I was never transferred. I got along good with everybody over there. That's the way I always did business — I shot straight with them and they knew it."

"Make money, get an education"

Dad began at NADEP July 6, 1965, a month after he graduated from Pamlico County High. He had a few more career options than my grandfather had. He had applied for and been accepted into three different programs: the undergraduate program of East Carolina University, a shipbuilding and dry-dock apprenticeship in Newport News, Va., and the Apprentice Program at Cherry Point.

"A classmate of mine took the shipbuilding option, and I chose Cherry Point," he said. "My thinking was make money and get an education."

The apprenticeship starting pay was $2.02 an hour. "To me, that was all the money in the world," Dad said. He worked on air frames, then instruments, then in electronics.

"Most everyone that I've known at Cherry Point who have applied themselves have done well," he said. "We've all progressed at a similar pace."

Dad joined the Quality organization in 1973. Today he directs the Quality and Evaluation Division, where he supervises more than 100 employees. The Q&E Division evaluates incoming aircraft to determine what repairs are necessary, then monitors the rework process to ensure the quality of repairs.

"Sometimes the job is stressful," Dad says, "because you're dealing with aircraft and there are very few parking spaces or rest areas at 20,000 feet. You've got to remember that it's serious business, and that the guy flying that aircraft wants to go home to his family every night, too."

The next generation

A job at NADEP is a secure job, but rumors of layoffs and shut downs have always been around. In 1970, there was a 25 percent workforce reduction. My dad was moved, but kept his job. More recently, about 300 employees accepted early retirement as NADEP prepared for competition with private industry.

But the greatest threat came in 1993 when the Base Realignment Commission (BRAC) was directed to close three of the Navy's six aviation depots. When BRAC scheduled a hearing in Richmond, Dad was one of the NADEP group who boarded 13 charter buses in New Bern and Havelock at 4 a.m. one morning. Gov. Jim Hunt and Sen. Jesse Helms also headed to the Richmond hearing.

"We were in this big hall that could probably hold about 5,000 people," Dad remembers. "And Gov. Hunt was making his presentation when he held up a white hat that the NADEP employee associations had distributed to employees making the trip. Gov. Hunt held up the hat for the BRAC Commission and when they looked into the crowd all they could see was a sea of white hats. . . . That was a turning point. I think those hearings and the support NADEP got focused everyone's attention on how important the facility was to eastern North Carolina and the folks who live there."

The government closed bases in Pensacola, Fla., Alameda, Calif. and Norfolk, which effectively brought more work to Cherry Point.

While NADEP has grown and introduced technology requiring highly-skilled workers, one thing hasn't changed — the competition for a job.

"It's been a good place to work," Dad said. "I've achieved more than I ever thought I would. But it's changed so much. Young people today have a different set of rules, a higher educational standard to meet. Young people should first focus on getting a good base education. If you look at our organization, you'd be amazed at the complexity of work that goes on here."

Dad and Grandad are thankful for the MCAS and NADEP and what it's meant to their families and to quality of life in Pamlico County. Grandad said, "I can't imagine what it would look like in Morehead, Newport, New Bern — all around here — if there wasn't any Cherry Point?"

It doesn't seem likely that I will ever work at Cherry Point. But it would be nice to raise children, some day, in the same kind of safe, small town atmosphere I enjoyed while growing up.

I wonder if they're hiring writers?

Kim Whorton is assistant editor of Carolina Country.

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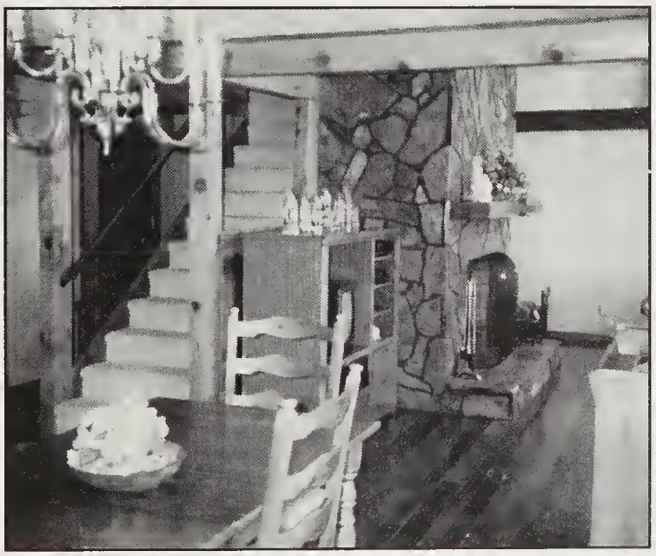

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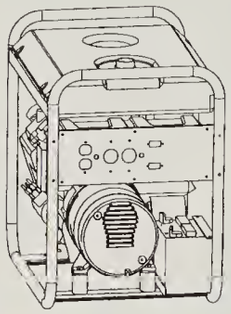
How to operate a portable generator safely



You can use a portable generator to supply electricity to your appliances if an emergency exists during a power outage. But if used improperly they can kill you and the people who are restoring power to your building. They also can damage the appliances you connect.

Home emergency generators are usually powered by gasoline, which must be properly handled as well.

Generator sizes vary. Common units can be from 8 to 14 horsepower and capable of handling from 4,000 to 8,400 watts (including starting surge requirements). Prices may range from $800 to $3,000.

Connecting a generator to the main electrical supply for your house requires the services of a qualified, licensed electrician. Installing the connection and switch (as explained below) can cost $600 to $1,000.

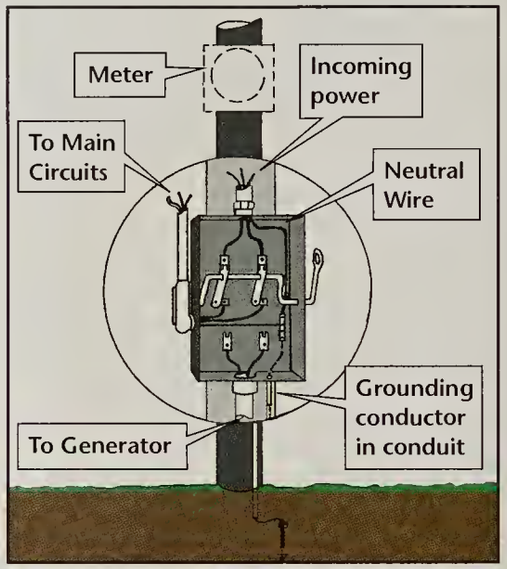
Before connecting the generator to your household circuit, notify your electric cooperative.

WARNING:

If you connect a portable electric generator to the main electrical supply coming into the house, the electrical generator could feed back into your electric cooperative's system and electrocute workers who are repairing the electrical lines.

To avoid back-feeding of electricity into utility systems, you must have a qualified, licensed electrician install a double-pole, double-throw transfer switch (see illustration) between the generator and utility power in compliance with all state and local electrical codes. (A minimum of 10-gauge wiring must be used.)

Your generator might not be large enough to handle the load of all the lights, appliances, TV, etc. at one time. To prevent dangerous overloading, calculate wattage requirements correctly (see below).



Typical Double Pole, Double Throw Transfer Switch Installation for 120/240 V, Single-Phase Service

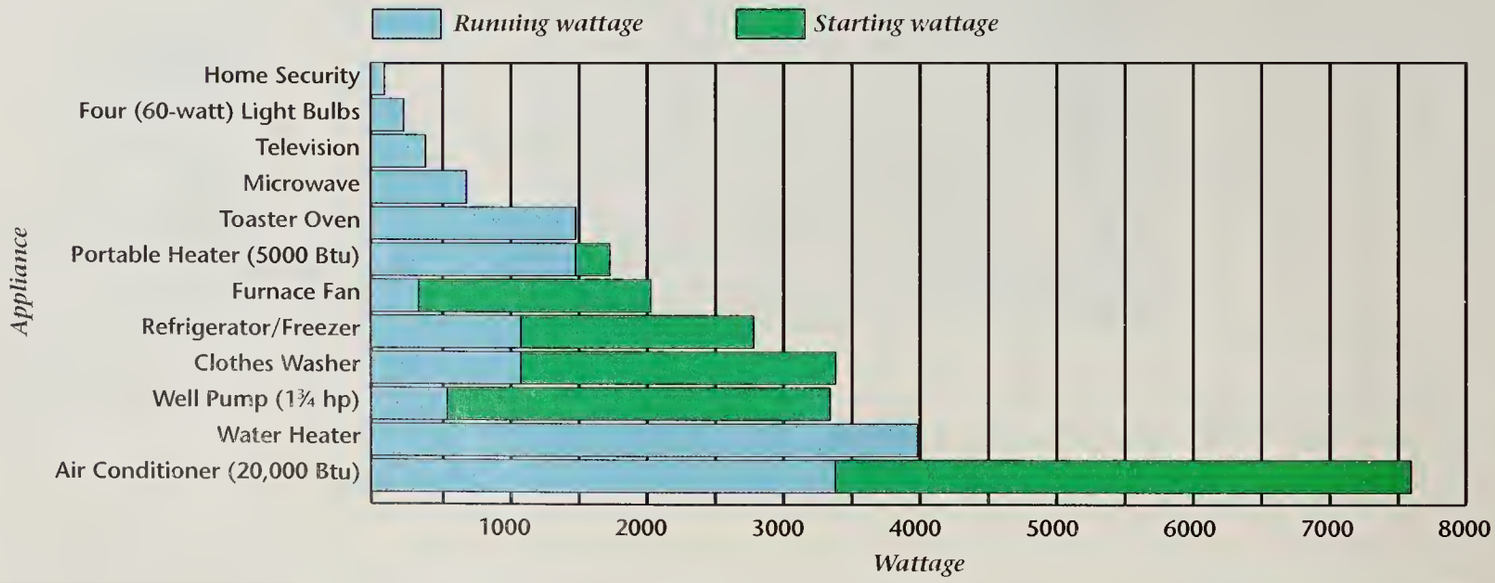
EXTENSION CORDS

When using an appliance or tool at a considerable distance from the generator, a 3-wire extension cord that has a 3-blade grounding plug and a 3-slot receptacle that accepts the tools plug should be used. A cord of adequate size must be used.

DETERMINING WATTAGE REQUIREMENTS

Never exceed the rated capacity of your generator. Overloading can cause serious damage to the generator or appliances. Before operating a generator, list all of the appliances that are going to operate at the same time. Then determine the starting wattage requirements and the running wattage requirements. The starting load lasts only for a few seconds, but is very important when figuring your total wattage to be used. Your generator must be rated to handle the total wattage.

Ratings shown here are samples. Wattage requirements vary with different brands of appliances. Be sure to check the name plate on the appliances you plan to use. Always start your largest electric motor first, then plug in other items one at a time.



If you do this	This could happen	Unless you prevent it
1. Attempt to connect generator directly to the electrical system of any building.	1. You can kill or injure a person repairing service lines. The electricity you generate will back feed through the building's electrical system to the outside utility feed lines. Attempting to connect to the incoming utility service could result in electrocution. If your electric cooperative's line crew is restoring electrical service while your generator is connected to the incoming utility service, you could start a fire or seriously damage your building.	1. A qualified, licensed electrician must install a double-pole, double-throw transfer switch to connect the generator to a building's electrical system. This is required by the National Electrical Code. Connection must meet local ordinances. A minimum of 10-gauge wiring must be used.
2. Fail to ground the generator's electrical system adequately.	2. Entire generator could become electrically charged and cause electrocution.	2. Make sure that the unit is connected to an appropriate electrical ground, in accordance with the National Electric Code. Follow instructions supplied with the generator.
3. Operate generator in rain, wet, icy or flooded conditions.	3. Water conducts electricity. If water which comes in contact with electricity to the generator's frame and other surfaces, it will cause an electrical shock to anyone contacting them.	3. Operate generator in a clean, dry, well ventilated area. Make sure your hands are dry.
4. Use worn damaged, undersized or ungrounded extension cords.	4. Contact with worn or damaged extension cords could cause electrocution. Undersize extension cords could overheat wires or attached items, resulting in fire. Use of ungrounded cordsets could prevent operation of circuit breakers and result in electrical shock.	4. Inspect extension cords before use and replace with new if required. Use proper size (wire gauge) cordset for application. Follow instructions supplied with your unit. Always use electrically grounded cordsets.
5. Place generator on or against un-grounded conductive surface, such as a steel walking way or metal roof.	5. Electrical current could leak out and charge conductive surfaces in contact with the generator.	5. Place generator on low conductivity surface such as a concrete slab.
6. Improperly connect appliances or tools to generator.	6. Exceeding the load capacity of the generator by attaching too many items, or items with very high load ratings, could overheat some items or their attachment wiring and cause fire or electrical shock.	6. Understand load ratings. (See sample chart.) Make sure that the total of electrical loads for all attachments does not exceed the load rating of the generator.
7. Operate unit when damaged, or with guards or panels removed.	7. Using a damaged or poorly functioning unit could cause fire or electrocution. Removing guards could expose electrically charged components and result in electrocution.	7. Do not operate generator if it has a mechanical or electrical problem. Do not operate generator with protective guarding removed.
8. Attempt to fill the fuel tank while the engine is running.	8. Gasoline and gasoline vapors can become ignited by coming in contact with hot components such as the muffler, engine exhaust gases or from an electrical spark.	8. Turn engine off and allow it to cool before adding fuel. Make sure there's a fire extinguisher in the immediate area certified to handle gasoline or fuel fires.
9. Expose generator to sparks, fire or hot objects.	9. Cigarettes, sparks, fires or other hot objects can cause gasoline or gasoline vapors to ignite.	9. Add fuel only in a well ventilated area. Make sure there are no sources of ignition near the generator.
10. Improperly store generator fuel.	10. Improperly stored fuel could ignite or get into the hands of children or other unqualified persons.	10. Store fuel in a properly designed container. Store container in secure location to prevent use by others.
11. Fail to ventilate generator by operating in an enclosed area.	11. Obstructing ventilation causes overheating and possible ignition of the materials. You will produce toxic carbon monoxide exhaust fumes from the engine. Breathing exhaust fumes will cause serious injury or death.	11. Operate generator in a clean, dry, well ventilated area. Keep objects away from unit during operation. Do not operate unit in a confined area, such as garages, basements, storage sheds, etc., which lack a steady exchange of air. Never operate unit in a location occupied by humans or animals. Keep children, pets and others away from where it's operating.
12. Tamper with factory set engine speed settings.	12. Tampering with the engine speed adjustment could result in overheating of attachments and could cause a fire.	12. Never attempt to "speed-up" the engine to obtain more performance. Both the output voltage and frequency will be thrown out of standard by this practice, endangering you and the attachments.
13. Operate generator in careless manner.	13. Unsafe operation or maintenance of your generator could lead to serious injury or death to you or others.	13. Review and understand all of the operating instructions and warnings supplied with the unit. Keep children or others away from the generator at all times

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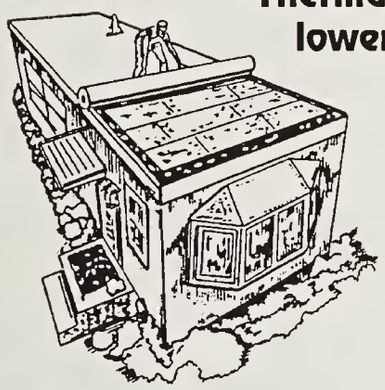

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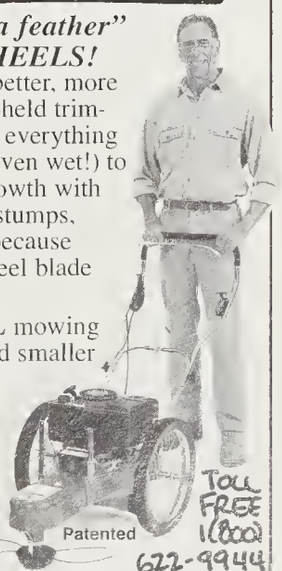

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Carolina Close-Up compiled by Jodie Petrarca

Wilmington's Azalea Festival marks its 50th year April 10–13

Each April, Wilmington puts on her best face as millions of azaleas, lovingly planted by local citizens, unfold. Visitors to this historic town can expect unrivaled beauty, southern hospitality, world class music and celebrity guests as the 50th Anniversary North Carolina Azalea Festival is celebrated April 10-13. Kicking off the 1997 festival will be coronation of Queen Azalea Lauren Roman at Riverfront Park, 10 a.m., Thursday, April 10. The first queen to have been born in Wilmington, Roman stars on ABC's "All My Children." Vince Gill brings his Kraft Country Tour to Wilmington Thursday evening, and Saturday evening's concert features Frankie Valli as well as The Four Tops.

The tradition of showcasing well-known entertainers began with the crowning of actress Jacqueline White as Queen Azalea I by Gov. R. Greg Cherry who reportedly dropped the crown, then placed it on the queen's head upside down! That didn't deter co-founder and first president Hugh Morton and others from moving forward. Today's festival includes two major concerts, a street fair and dance, parade, circus, home tours, garden tours, coin show, horse show and art shows.

For more information, call the Festival office at (910) 763-0905 or the Cape Fear Coast Convention and Visitors Bureau at (800) 222-4757.

Take a seat to the Folk Art Center

The Southern Highland Craft Guild will sponsor a biennial exhibit of handmade chairs at the Folk Art Center in Asheville from Oct. 7 through January 4, 1998. The Chair Show II is open to individual craftspersons of any medium who reside in the United States. Judged by three professionals in furniture design and craft, Chair Show II explores all interpretations of the chair form. Judges seek entries that stress innovation in form and expression while respecting the tradition of the chair design. All works must be completed in the past three years.

For more information on Chair Show II, contact the Southern Highland Craft Guild, P.O. Box 9545, Asheville, NC 28815. Phone: (704) 298-7928. (Slide entries are due June 4).

Outdoors geared for kids

For over nine years, the Blue Ridge Outing Company has guided kids in safe rafting trips on Tuckasegee River's whitewater and mild water. The outing company has designed three different adventure packages offered from April through October: Tales, Truths & Legends of the Tuckasegee, What's Lurking at the Bottom of the River and Family Fun on the River. Contact Blue Ridge Outing Company, 7397 U.S. Hwy. 74 W, Whittier, NC 28789. Phone: (800) 572-3510.

Myrtle Beach gets the Blues

Building on the success of previous locations in Cambridge, New Orleans, Los Angeles and Chicago, the fifth House of Blues is scheduled to open in Myrtle Beach, S.C. on May 4. The House of Blues is a multi-dimensional establishment open seven nights a week. The entertainment complex features a Delta-inspired restaurant and all genres of live music: blues, rock, alternative, gospel, jazz and R&B. The House of Blues in Myrtle Beach will offer a weekly Sunday Gospel Brunch, an old-fashioned outdoor barbecue pit, "Blues Cruises," golf packages and a Charleston-influenced courtyard.

Watch for the sixth House of Blues coming to Orlando in August. Contact House of Blues, 8439 Sunset Blvd., Suite 306, W. Hollywood, CA 90069. Phone: (213) 848-2558. For the Myrtle Beach location, call (803) 361-2900.

Cradle of Forestry opens for 1997 season

New exhibits and special events mark the April 19 opening of the 1997 season at the Cradle of Forestry in America. The Forest Discovery Center on U.S. Hwy. 276 in Pisgah National Forest,Transylvania County, is open daily from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. through Nov. 2. The Cradle of Forestry celebrates the beginning of forest management in the United States, claiming the site of Biltmore Forest School, the first college of forestry in America.

The Cradle of Forestry offers guided walks on the Biltmore Campus Trail and the Forest Festival Trail. The new exhibits are the "Dynamic Forest," "Water in the Forest" and "Forest Marketplace." Visitors can also enjoy a gift shop and the Forest Bounty Cafe. Admission price is $4 for adults and $2 for children. Group discounts and season passes are also available.

For more information, contact the Cradle of Forestry in America, 1002 Pisgah Highway, Pisgah Forest, NC 28768. Email: www.CradleofForestry.com or Phone: (704) 884-5713.

"A Woman's Work Is Never Done"

Chores and tasks performed by average Davidson County women during the Victorian era are featured in a new exhibit at the Davidson County Historical Museum. Shown are a collection of darning eggs, kitchen utensils, wooden ironing board and a five-pound iron, clothing and a mural painted by Lincolnton artist Bridget Payseur. The exhibit will remain on display into July.

Donations and loaned items from this era are still being accepted for the exhibit. Contact the Davidson County Historical Museum, 2 South Main St., Lexington, NC 27292. Phone: (910) 242-2035.

Burial locations of Confederate soldiers identified

The North Carolina Confederate Burial Locator Project needs help in a statewide effort to catalog the burial locations of Confederate soldiers and veterans within North Carolina. Begun in 1993, a computerized database holds entries that locate burial sites and verify military service records for over 16,000 soldiers. The project will be an aid to genealogical and historical researchers. If you have any submissions to the database, they should include: full name, date of birth and death, name of cemetery or burial location, name of road, municipality and county of burial site, type of gravestone, and company and regimental designation of soldier or veteran. For more information or submissions, contact Jeff H. Stepp, project editor, 2139 Buffalo Shoals Rd., Catawba, NC 28609. Phone: (704) 328-6405.

Inflatable sphere scares off birds

An interesting new bird repeller is a bright orange, inflatable sphere called "Terror Eyes." Scientifically and empirically based on predator and bird behavior, "Terror Eyes" resembles an owl and hangs from a spring, so air currents cause it to move and sway. The huge, holographic eyes are located on the front and back of the 2-foot sphere and appear to follow the passing birds. The bird repeller is constructed of heavy-duty vinyl and can be mounted anywhere from roofs, parking lots, loading docks, gardens, marinas, orchards and farm fields.

"Terror Eyes" costs $45 plus shipping, from Bird-X, Inc., 300 North Elizabeth St., Dept. BC, Chicago, IL 60607. Email: BIRD X INC@aol.com or phone (312) 226-2473.

Open to all sculptors

Sculptors may enter two works and compete for over $5,000 in awards at the 12th annual Sculpture Celebration, in J.E. Broyhill Park, Lenoir, on Aug. 8 and 9. The event is held outdoors. Along with the judging of sculptures, there will be food, slide presentations and live music. There is a $25 non-refundable registration fee. Contact the Sculpture Celebration, J.E. Broyhill Park, 601 Ridge St., Lenoir, NC 28645. Phone: (704) 757-2187.

Get paid to work at home

Employers nationwide are searching for people to hire as home-based workers. With over 250,000 copies sold, "The Work At Home Sourcebook" lists the names, addresses and background information on over 1,000 job opportunities. This sourcebook also gives details on the types of pay and benefits involved in these jobs, job descriptions, profiles of successful homeworkers and step-by-step instructions on how to apply for a specific at-home job. Some of the job opportunities include: translating, proofreading, composing poems and rhymes for greeting cards, illustrating books, hand assembly of jewelry, computer programming, typing addresses and taking photographs for ad agencies. "The Work At Home Sourcebook" is available for $19.95 (plus $4 shipping cost) from Strawberry Hill Enterprises, 898 Oswego St., Aurora, Co 80010. Phone: (303) 367-5037.

10 steps to a four-star gourmet dinner

Gourmet in a Box is a new way to create a four-star dinner for two in 10 easy-to-follow steps. No prior cooking experience or special cooking tools are needed. All you need are a few fresh ingredients and the items included in each Gourmet in a Box kit.

Each kit contains sauces, mixes, herbs and spices, and 10-step instructions. Choose from three menus: Apricot-Garlic Chicken, Herbed Pasta with Sun Dried Tomatoes and Porcini Mushrooms, or Baked Eggplant in a Gingered Red Pepper Puree. Gourmet in a Box was named one of Men's Health Magazine's five top food products of the year.

Gourmet in a Box costs $19.95 plus shipping. Contact Calabasas Gourmet, 26500 W. Agoura Rd., #555, Calabasas, CA 91302. Phone: (800) 244-4404. Express delivery is available.

Got a minute?

Steven W. Moje says you can make simple toys in less than 60 seconds using step-by-step directions in his book "One-Minute Toys." The guide is especially designed for children to create their own toys, such as flying hats, masks and decorations from materials found around the house. "One-Minute Toys" is available for $8.95 (softcover) from Price Stern Sloan (Putnam & Grosset) at (800) 847-5515.

Moje also produced a book designed for budding scientists that requires a box of paper clips and a few household supplies. "Paper Clip Science" lists over 65 experiments dealing with chemical reactions, water, electricity, magnetism and toys. It is available for $14.95 (hardcover) from Sterling Publishing Co. at (800) 367-9692.

What in the world is electricity and where does it go after it leaves the toaster?

Here is a simple experiment that will teach you an important electrical lesson:

On a cool dry day, scuff your feet along a carpet, then reach your hand into a friend's mouth and touch one of his dental fillings. Did you notice how your friend twitched violently and cried out in pain? This teaches one that electricity can be a very powerful force, but we must never use it to hurt others unless we need to learn an important lesson about electricity.

It also illustrates how an electrical circuit works. When you scuffed your feet, you picked up batches of "electrons", which are very small objects that carpet manufacturers weave into carpet so that they will attract dirt. The electrons travel through your bloodstream and collect in your finger, where they form a spark that leaps to your friend's filling, then travel down to his feet and back into the carpet, thus completing the circuit.

Amazing electrical fact: If you scuff your feet long enough without touching anything, you will build up so many electrons that your finger will explode! But this is nothing to worry about unless you have carpeting.

Although we modern persons tend to take our electric lights, radios, mixers, etc. for granted, hundreds of years ago people did not have any of these things, which is just as well because there was no place to plug them in. Then along came the first Electrical Pioneer, Benjamin Franklin, who flew a kite in a lightning storm and received a serious electrical shock. This proved that lightning was powered by the same force as carpets, but it also damaged Franklin's brain so severely that he started speaking only in incomprehensible maxims, such as, "A penny saved is a penny earned." Eventually he had to be given a job running the post office.

After Franklin came a herd of Electrical Pioneers whose names have become part of our electrical terminology: Myron Volt, Amp Lee, Spike Lee, Willie Wiredhand, James Watt, Reddy Kilowatt, Bob Transformer, etc. These pioneers conducted many important electrical experiments. Among them, Luigi Galvani discovered (this is the truth) that when he attached two different kinds of metal to the leg of a frog, an electrical current developed and the frog's leg kicked, even though it was no longer attached to the frog, which was dead anyway. Galvani's discovery led to enormous advances in the field of amphibian medicine. Today, skilled veterinary surgeons can take a frog that has been seriously injured or killed, implant pieces of metal in its muscles, and watch it hop back into the pond — almost.

But the greatest Electrical Pioneer of them all was Thomas Edison, who was a brilliant inventor despite the fact that he had little formal education and lived in New Jersey. Edison's first major invention in 1877 was the phonograph, which could soon be found in thousands of American homes, where it basically sat until 1923, when the record was invented. But Edison's greatest achievement came in 1879 when he invented the electric company. Edison's design was a brilliant adaptation of the simple electrical circuit: the electric company sends electricity through a wire to a customer, then immediately gets the electricity back through another wire, then (this is the brilliant part) sends it right back to the customer again.

Luigi Galvani discovered that a frog's leg creates electrical current. Jackie Pittman

This means that an electric company can sell a customer the same batch of electricity thousands of times a day and never get caught, since very few customers take the time to examine their electricity closely. In fact, the last year any new electricity was generated was 1937.

Today, thanks to men like Edison and Franklin, and frogs like Galvani's, we receive almost unlimited benefits from electricity. For example, in the past decade scientists have developed the laser, an electronic appliance so powerful that it can vaporize a bulldozer 2,000 yards away, yet so precise that doctors can use it to perform delicate operations to the human eyeball, provided they remember to change the power setting from "Bulldozer" to "Eyeball."

This is our attempt at publishing April foolery. We wish we knew who wrote it. — MG

Go Electric

A buyer's guide

by Sharon O'Malley

COOL CLOCKS

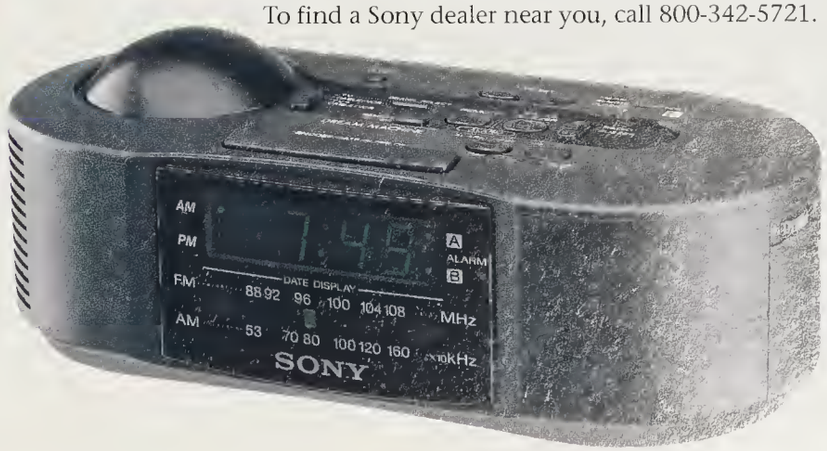
Kid stuff. Your kids won't even want to sleep until noon if they have this Time Blaster clock/radio from Nickelodeon. Your little one will awaken to the sound of a bugle, cuckoo, "boing! boing!" or Nick noise (your child chooses one wild sound the night before). Every day starts with the flashing GreenSlime Power Rod and a glance at the digitally displayed time. The clock's Big Red Snooze Button allows a sleepy someone to catch nine extra minutes before it blasts off again. Available from the Spiegel catalog (N76 153 2845T) for about $40. Call 800-345-4500 to order.

Dawn's early light. Now you can wake to the soft glow of dawn instead of a jarring alarm in a dark room. A 6-inch, hand-blown glass globe lamp on the SunRise Alarm Clock simulates the slow arrival of daylight by gradually increasing in brightness over 30 minutes. The analog clock has a backup alarm. It's available for about $100 from the Sharper Image (#BH400). Call 800-344-5555 to order.

These clocks aren't just for wake-up calls.
They serve double-duty to relax, entertain and help start your day off right.

Radio waves. This compact alarm clock/radio is practically a complete stereo system in miniature. Bose's Wave Radio generates sound that belies its compact size. With its quality sound, it's also perfect for use in the kitchen or den. The Wave Radio features an AM/FM stereo radio and a dual alarm clock, as well as 12 radio presets, mute, scan and automatic sleep features. Listeners can fall asleep to one station and wake to another. The Wave Radio costs about $350 and is available directly from Bose Corp. by calling 800-919-2673.

Good morning, America! If you're a couch potato, Sony has the alarm clock for you. You'll be able to start your day with a television show—without ever leaving your bed. This sleek tabletop clock has an infrared transmitter that will rouse your TV (and even activate your cable box, if you have one) when it's time to open your eyes. Its backup system retains clock and alarm settings in case of a power interruption. Model ICF-C777 is available in electronics and department stores for around $50. To find a Sony dealer near you, call 800-342-5721.



Joyner's Corner ©by Charles Joyner

DOMI–NO.S

Each letter in this multiplication problem stands for a numeral. Repeated letters stand for repeated numerals. Can you place nine of the numerals below on the **DOMI–NO.S** to the right to make the problem mathematically correct?

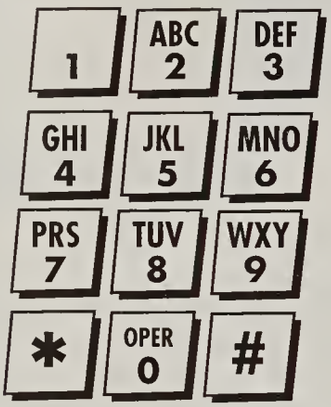
(This is an especially challenging puzzle. You might find it easier to cut out the numerals below and place them on the puzzle. Let us know if you like this puzzle.)

G	U	E	S	S
				I
			X	3
A	G	A	I	N
			3	

0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9

Phone–etics

If you were to punch in the numbers below on your telephone keypad, you would spell out the answer. Go figure!



Define the progressive income tax in two words:

2 2 7 4 8 2 5
_ _ _ _ _ _ _
7 8 6 4 7 4 6 3 6 8
_ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _

Correction

Three briefs that appeared on the Local & State page of the Wednesday edition were out of date and the information contained in them is no longer timely, including information about a teleconference on multiple sclerosis, a Transylvania Literacy Council meeting and an upcoming eclipse. The briefs were published inadvertently. The *Times-News* regrets any inconvenience to readers.

DAYBOOK

The War of 1812 starts 10 a.m. to noon today at the Polk Campus of

The (Hendersonville NC) Times–News 1/10/97

There you go again.

UNSCRAMBLE IT!

From 1789 to 1793, _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _
c u d s l l s e r a a s

was the _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ of North
b l u l s n u m r l u a

Carolina.

The 11 letters below are used in three missing words in the sentence above. (Some of the letters appear more than once.) Arranged in alphabetical order, the 11 letters mean "unscrambled." Can you fill in the blanks?

S P L I T V Y C A F E

All answers on page 31.

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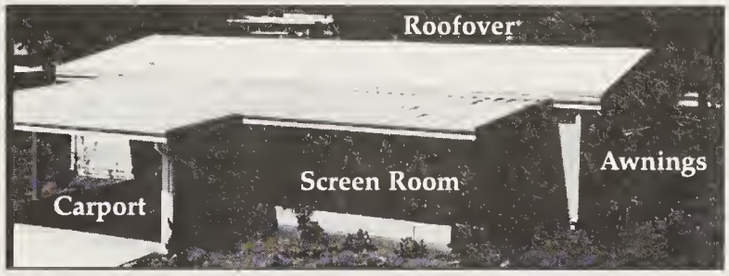

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ATTENTION SENIOR HOMEOWNERS

The United States Department of Housing and Urban Development has a mortgage loan program tailored to the needs of seniors.

This new benefit allows you to receive cash advances from the equity in your home to use for any purpose, with no repayment required, as long as you maintain your home as your primary residence.

There are minimal out-of-pocket expenses required to get into the program, and you will receive consumer education from a HUD-approved non-profit counseling agency.

Call the the local HUD/FHA approved lender listed below for more information.

Wendover (910) 605-2630
(800) 568-9109

Carolina Compass compiled by Jodie Petrarca

Figure & Faces Show

April 2-3, Burlington

Artists use a wide range of media to depict various styles of figures and faces. Burlington Artist League Gallery, BMOC Building #5. Closed Monday; 12 to 5 p.m., Tuesday through Saturday; 1 to 6 p.m., Sunday. Free. (910) 229-9844.

Appalachian Percussion

April 3, Boone

Rag time, experimental pieces, music from different cultures and percussion with electronic tape. Visiting composer Arthur Kreiger. Broyhill Music Center at ASU School of Music. 8 p.m. Free. (704) 262-3020.

Homes & Gardens Tour

April 4-5, New Bern

Tour over 12 homes and gardens from the 18th, 19th and 20th centuries. Downtown Historic District and Riverside District. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. $12.50 advance, $15 day of event. (919) 633-6448.

"Art of the Bonsai"

April 5, Chapel Hill

Demonstration on creating miniature landscapes. Ackland Art Museum. 2 p.m. Free. (919) 966-5736.

Matinee Harness Races

April 6, Pinehurst

Annual race with trotters and pacers. Pinehurst Harness Track. 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. $5. (910) 295-4446.

Celtic Harp & Story

April 8, Elon College

Tales full of wit and enchantment with Irish melodies presented by Patrick Ball, an American master of the Irish instrument. Elon College Whitley Auditorium. 8 p.m. $5. (910) 538-6749.

Southern Pines Garden Club

April 9, Southern Pines

47th Home and Garden Tour. Campbell House. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. $15. (910) 295-2636.

Spring Birding Workshop

April 11, Beaufort

Slide lecture and bird watching trip. North Carolina Maritime Museum. 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. $5. (919) 728-7317.

Friday at Five

April 11, Greensboro

An after-work party of live music, food and beverages. The Depot. 5 to 8:30 p.m. $3. (910) 272-6617.

A Leap of Faith

April 11, Wilmington

50th anniversary history of The First Azalea Festival exhibit by Hugh Morton, organizer of the first festival. Cape Fear Museum. 11 a.m. Free. (910) 341-4350.

Historic House Heritage

April 12, Beaufort County

Historic Harris House, on-site demonstrations, quilting, canning, shuck seating, soapmaking, wash day, gardening. NC Hwy. 32 halfway between Plymouth and Washington. 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.. Free. (919) 927-3172.

Golden Dolls Doll Club

April 12, Concord

Annual doll show and sale. National Guard Armory. 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. $3. (704) 436-6451.

Train Show

April 12, North Wilkesboro

NRHS Yadkin Valley Chapter's show and swap meet. National Guard Armory off NC 115. Saturday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. $3, under 12 free with adult. As for Randy Bennett at (910) 838-3158.

Dutch Festival

April 12, Terra Ceia

Dutch food, entertainment, Flower Farm Tour, and games and rides for children. Terra Ceia Christian School. 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Free. (919) 935-5032.

Traditional Music Concert

April 12, West Jefferson

Blues, bluegrass, oldtime and gospel with Bobby McMillon, Etta Baker, Jim Shumate and Sons of the Carolines, Rock Creek Boys and Judy, Gospel Mellotones. Blue Ridge Elementary School, 7:30 p.m. $8 adults, $5 children and seniors. (910) 246-2787.

Living History Weekend

April 12-13, Lincolnton

217th anniversary of the Battle of Ramsour's Mill. Locke's Militia, Guilford Militia, Over-the-Mountain Boys and old-fashioned church service. Battlesite near Lincolnton High School. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturday; 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Sunday. Free. (704) 736-8442.

March for Parks Walk

April 12-13, Salisbury

5 km and 10 km. Dan Nicholas Park. 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. $1. (704) 279-3282.

Fun Health Fair

April 14-17, Moore County

Screenings in hearing, vision, dental, speech, development, nutrition and sensory integration for preschool children. Monday in Pinehurst; Tuesday in Robbins; Wednesday in Aberdeen; Thursday in Carthage. 9 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. Free. (910) 948-4324.

Alive After Five

April 17, Shelby

Live entertainment, food and beverages. Uptown Shelby Court Square. 5 to 8:30 p.m. Free. (704) 484-3100.

"Share Cabarrus Festival"

April 18-19, Concord

Arts, crafts, food, games, dancing, entertainment, magic show, petting zoo. Downtown Concord. 7 to 10:30 p.m., Friday; 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturday. Free. (704) 782-4111.

Biennial Pilgrimage

April 18-19, Edenton

1997 tour of homes and countryside. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. $18. (800) 775-0017.

Loch Norman Highland Games

April 18-20, Huntersville

Highland athletics, wrestling, dancing, races, live music, storytellers and demonstrations. Prizes, trophies and medals. Rural Hill Plantation. 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Adults: Saturday, $10; Sunday, $8; 2 days, $15. Students $5. (704) 875-3113.

Living History Weekend

April 18-20, Plymouth

Torchlight tour, boat tour, bus tour, demonstrations, battle reenactments. Port-O-Plymouth Museum. Registration, Friday; 9:30 a.m. to midnight, Saturday; 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., Sunday. Bus tour $10, torchlight tour $6. (919) 793-1377.

Men's Glee Club

April 19, Boone

Final concert conducted by Dr. Philip Paul, retiring as director of the Glee Club for 35 years. Farthing Auditorium at ASU School of Music. 8 p.m. Free. (704) 262-3020.

All Satin Rabbit Show

April 19, Charlotte

Breeders from all over the U.S., judging on ten varieties of satin, concessions available. Grady Cole Center. 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Free. (704) 484-8973.

Deadlines: June issue .....April 25
July issue.....May 25
August issue.....June 25

Send notices to Carolina Country
P.O. Box 27306
Raleigh, NC 27611

Old-Time Square Dance

April 19, Denton
Traditional Appalachian-style square dance, live music, dance lessons. Denton Civic Center. 7 to 10:30 p.m. Adults $4, children free. (910) 475-9397.

Spring Poetry Festival

April 19, Elon College
Annual poetry readings and workshops. Elon College Yeager Recital Hall. 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Free. (910) 584-2211.

Spring Dance Festival

April 19, Fayetteville
Dogwood Squares, food and fun. Roland Dance Studio. 7 to 10:30 p.m. $8 couples, $4 singles. (910) 488-6005.

Fun in the Sun

April 19, Franklinton
Crafts, food, live music, children's parade. Main Street. 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Free. (919) 494-7965.

Bluegrass and Fiddlers Convention

April 19, Yadkinville
Local and regional music from northwestern N.C. and southwestern Va. Yadkinville Elementary School. 7 p.m. Adults $6, Children $3. (910) 679-7041.

50th Anniversary Celebration

April 19-20, Raleigh
Interpretive tours, food, dancing, children's events, fireworks, live music and a light show. North Carolina Museum of Art. 11 a.m. to 9 p.m., Saturday; 1 to 6 p.m., Sunday. Free. (919) 839-6262.

Art Competition and Exhibition

April 19-25, Hickory
Cash prizes, merchant awards, all N.C. artists invited. Hickory Furniture Mart. (704) 328-8183.

Apple Chill

April 20, Chapel Hill
Street fair. Arts, crafts, live music and food. East Franklin Street. 1 to 6 p.m. Free. (919) 968-2784.

"Springtime in the Country"

April 20, Whispering Pines
Pony rides, petting farm, hay rides, boating, fishing and singing. The Heritage. 1 p.m. Free. (910) 949-3433.

"Long Time Since Yesterday"

April 23-27, Greensboro
P.J. Gibson's play about successful African-American women. Taylor Theatre at UNCG. 8 p.m., Wednesday through Saturday; 2 p.m., Sunday. $10 adults, $5 students. (910) 334-5575.

Liberty Antique Festival

April 25-26, Liberty
All antiques and collectibles. Rain or shine. John Marsh Rd. 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. $3. (910) 622-3040.

Amish Quilt & Craft Sale

April 25-26, Raleigh
Over 250 Amish quilts, pillows, dolls, toys, furniture, artwork. N.C. State Fairgrounds. 12 to 8 p.m., Friday; 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturday. Free. (717) 786-8487.

Gem & Mineral Club

April 25-27, Charlotte
29th annual gem, jewelry, mineral show and sale. Metrolina Expo Fairgrounds. 4 to 9 p.m., Friday; 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Saturday; 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Sunday. $3 adults, $1.50 children. (704) 786-7876.

Spring Home and Garden Tour

April 26, Hillsborough
Tours through old homes, gardens and the town focus on 19th century history of Hillsborough. Hillsborough Visitors Center. 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. $10 advance, $12 at door. (919) 732-7741.

Street Festival

April 26, Oxford
7th annual Oxford Blooming Festival with The New Madisons, B-Sharp Band, arts, crafts, food, kids' activities, exhibits, antique autos. Saturday 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.. Free. (919) 693-6125.

Roanoke Valley Doll Club

April 26, Roanoke Rapids
6th annual doll show and sale. Holiday Inn. 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. $2. (919) 826-5483.

Creative Festival for Children

April 26, Waynesville
11th annual Razzle Dazzle Saturday. Main Street. 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. $3. (704) 456-3517.

Fort Dobbs Encampment

April 26-27, Statesville
Demonstrations of 18th century firearms and domestic skills. Fort Dobbs State Historic Site, only N.C. fort site of French and Indian War. 1 to 5 p.m., Saturday; 1 to 4 p.m., Sunday. Free. (704) 873-5866.

Appalachian Symphony

April 27, Boone
Concerto Aria Concert featuring three soloists. ASU Broyhill Music Center. 2 p.m. Free. (704) 262-3020.

Sunday on the Square

April 27, Fayetteville
Outdoor arts festival. Artists, entertainers and craftspeople. Downtown Fayetteville. 12 to 6 p.m. Free. (910) 323-1776.

Appalachian Folk Music

April 27, West Jefferson
Timmy Abell and Laura Boosinger at the Ashe Arts Center, 3 p.m. $5 adults, $3 students. (910) 246-2787.

14th Annual Senior Games

April 28, Southern Pines
Ages 55 and over. Compete in golf, bowling, swimming, shuffleboard and Silver Arts. Pinecrest High School. $10. (910) 692-7376.

Wild Flower Trip

April 30, Beaufort
Carnivorous plants on excursion to the Croatan National Forest. North Carolina Maritime Museum. 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. $5. (919) 728-7317.

Blooming Arts Festival

May 2-4, Monroe
17th annual spring party. Live music and fireworks at Belk-Tonawanda Park from 7:30 to 11 p.m., Friday. $2. Arts, crafts, food and games in Dowtown Monroe Historic District from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Saturday and 12 to 6 p.m., Sunday. Free. (704) 283-2784.

Springfest 97

May 3, Shelby
Live entertainment, crafts, food and Pets on Parade. Courtsquare. 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Free. (704) 482-8186.

Kids Fair 97

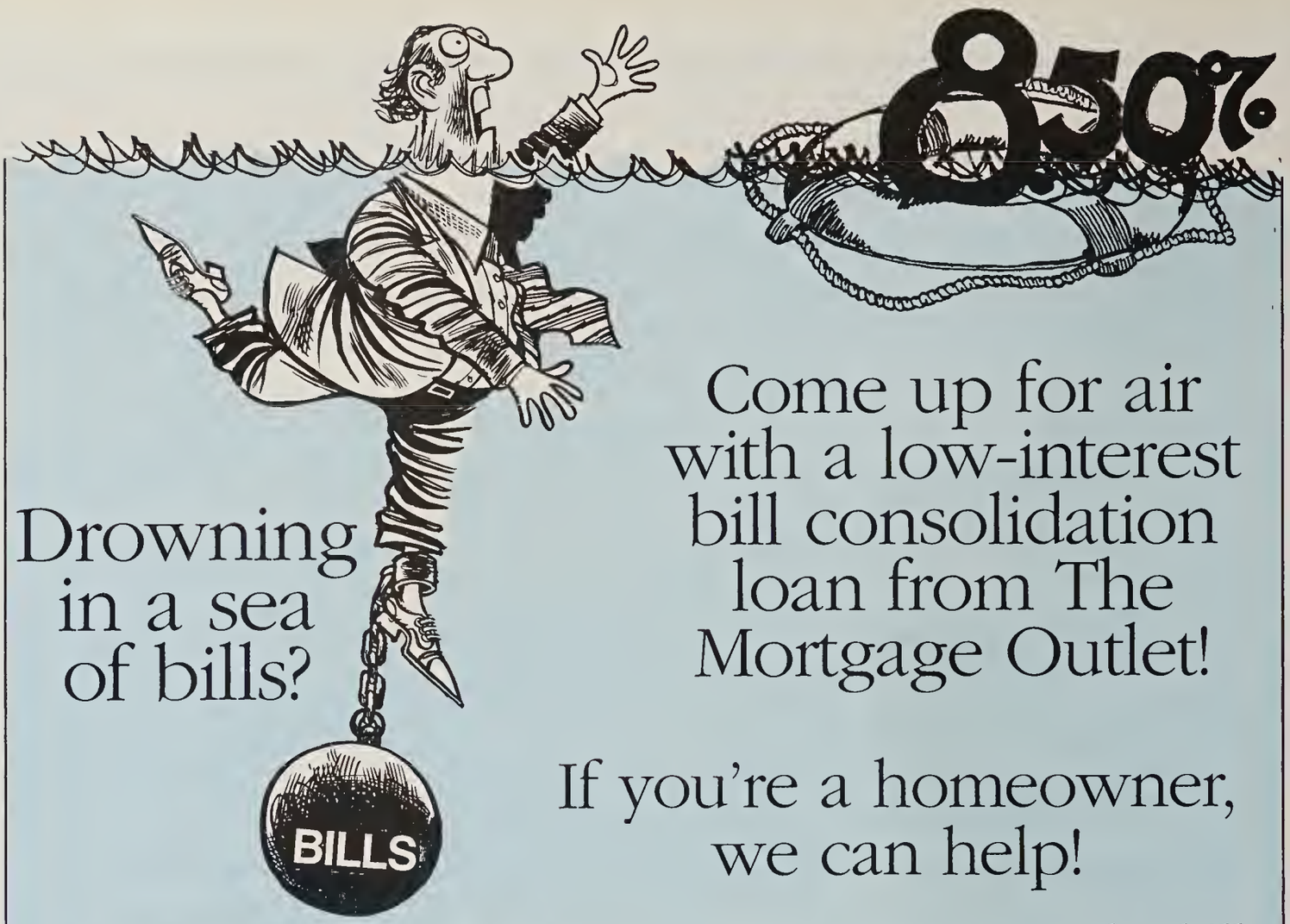
May 3-4, Durham
Hands-on educational fair to promote families and support crime prevention. Durham Bulls Athletic Park. Saturday 10 a.m. to 6 and Sunday noon to 6 p.m. $2 kids, $5 adults. Phone: (919) 682-0449.

Mattamuskeet Art Show

May 4, Swan Quarter
"Wild Wings - Native Scenes - Artist Things." Beaufort, Dare, Hyde, Tyrrell and Washington County artists. The Lodge. 1 to 6 p.m. $2.50. (888) HYDE-VAN.

Ramp Festival

May 4, Waynesville
Bluegrass pickin', live music and different uses of the Wild Onion. America Legion Field. 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Free. (800) 334-9036.



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NON-SMOKER RATES

MONTHLY RATES

Issue Age	$50,000 Male	$50,000 Female	$100,000 Male	$100,000 Female	$250,000 Male	$250,000 Female	$500,000 Male	$500,000 Female
20	8.34	8.34	12.50	12.50	25.00	25.00	45.84	45.84
21	8.34	8.34	12.50	12.50	25.00	25.00	45.84	45.84
22	8.34	8.34	12.50	12.50	25.00	25.00	45.84	45.84
23	8.34	8.34	12.50	12.50	25.00	25.00	45.84	45.84
24	8.34	8.34	12.50	12.50	25.00	25.00	45.84	45.84
25	8.34	8.34	12.50	12.50	25.00	25.00	45.84	45.84
26	8.34	8.34	12.50	12.50	25.00	25.00	45.84	45.84
27	8.34	8.34	12.50	12.50	25.00	25.00	45.84	45.84
28	8.34	8.34	12.50	12.50	25.00	25.00	45.84	45.84
29	8.34	8.34	12.50	12.50	25.00	25.00	45.84	45.84
30	8.34	8.34	12.50	12.50	25.00	25.00	45.84	45.84
31	8.34	8.34	12.50	12.50	25.00	25.00	45.84	45.84
32	8.34	8.34	12.50	12.50	25.00	25.00	45.84	45.84
33	8.34	8.34	12.50	12.50	25.00	25.00	45.84	45.84
34	8.34	8.34	12.50	12.50	25.00	25.00	45.84	45.84
35	8.34	8.34	12.50	12.50	25.00	25.00	45.84	45.84
36	8.38	8.34	12.59	12.50	25.21	25.00	46.25	45.84
37	8.42	8.34	12.67	12.50	25.42	25.00	46.67	45.84
38	8.46	8.34	12.75	12.50	25.63	25.00	47.09	45.84
39	8.50	8.34	12.84	12.50	25.84	25.00	47.50	45.84
40	8.55	8.38	12.92	12.59	26.05	25.21	47.92	46.25
41	8.59	8.42	13.00	12.67	26.25	25.42	48.34	46.67
42	8.65	8.46	13.09	12.75	26.46	25.63	48.75	47.08
43	8.67	8.50	13.17	12.84	26.67	25.84	49.17	47.50

MONTHLY RATES

Issue Age	$50,000 Male	$50,000 Female	$100,000 Male	$100,000 Female	$250,000 Male	$250,000 Female	$500,000 Male	$500,000 Female
44	8.71	8.55	13.25	12.92	26.88	26.05	49.59	47.92
45	8.75	8.59	13.34	13.00	27.09	26.25	50.00	48.34
46	8.96	8.65	13.75	13.09	28.13	26.46	52.09	48.75
47	9.38	8.67	14.59	13.17	30.21	26.67	56.25	49.17
48	9.80	8.71	15.42	13.25	32.30	26.88	60.42	49.59
49	10.21	8.75	16.25	13.34	34.38	27.09	64.59	50.00
50	10.63	8.96	17.09	13.75	36.46	28.13	68.75	52.09
51	11.05	9.38	17.92	14.59	38.55	30.21	72.92	56.25
52	11.46	9.80	18.75	15.42	40.63	32.30	77.09	60.42
53	12.09	10.21	20.00	16.25	43.75	34.38	83.34	64.59
54	12.71	10.63	21.25	17.09	46.88	36.46	89.59	68.75
55	13.55	11.05	22.92	17.92	51.05	38.55	97.92	72.92
56	14.38	11.46	24.59	18.75	55.21	40.63	106.25	77.09
57	15.21	12.09	26.25	20.00	59.38	43.75	114.59	83.34
58	16.05	12.71	27.92	21.25	63.55	46.88	122.92	89.59
59	17.09	13.55	30.00	22.92	68.75	51.05	133.34	97.92
60	22.09	14.38	40.00	24.59	93.75	55.21	183.34	106.25
61	23.13	15.21	42.09	26.25	98.96	59.38	193.75	114.59
62	24.17	16.05	44.17	27.92	104.17	63.55	204.17	122.92
63	25.42	17.09	46.67	30.00	110.42	68.75	216.67	133.34
64	26.67	22.09	49.17	40.00	116.67	93.75	229.17	183.34
65	28.13	23.13	52.09	42.09	123.96	98.96	243.75	193.75
66-75	RATES AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST							

Other amounts available upon request. Premiums are based on applicant's age at issuance of policy. Policies are non-cancellable as long as premiums are paid. Premiums may be paid annually, semi-annually and monthly bank draft only. (A no-cost medical exam may be required depending on age, health or amount of coverage desired). Policies above are annual renewable and convertible term. Policy Form No. L-ORD-5101-91. Level Death Benefit to age 85. Premiums increase annually. Underwritten by United Services Life Insurance Company, Arlington, VA 22203. Established in 1937. Over $21 Billion of Life Insurance in Force as of 12/31/95. Death Benefit payable for Natural or Accidental Death. NOT AVAILABLE IN ALL STATES.

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BENEFICIARY _____ AGE _____

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NAME _____

DATE OF BIRTH _____ ☐ MALE ☐ FEMALE

AMT. OF INS. DESIRED _____ ☐ SMOKER ☐ NON-SMOKER

Comments: _____

I would also like information about: ☐ 5 Year Term ☐ 10 Year Term ☐ 15 Year Term

MK 1176 (12/96)

OM2-163 YRT Ca[illegible] 47

Central vacuum cleaners

Central vacuum cleaners provide the best deep cleaning for dust and allergen-free indoor air. The dust and dirt are sucked away to a remote super powerful suction unit or power unit. You can install the power to exhaust the air outdoors or indoors through special filtration systems. Vacuuming is so quiet, that it will not wake someone sleeping, interrupt a telephone conversation or drown out a baby crying.

Installing one yourself is usually a simple weekend job, even in most two-story houses. Easy-to-cut two-inch plastic pipe is used to connect the wall inlets to the remote power unit. With a typical 32-foot cleaning hose, a 1,400-square-foot house needs only two wall inlets. A 2,100-square-foot house needs three inlets and a 2,800-square-foot house needs four inlets.

Running a super-powerful central vacuum cleaner (some have two or three suction motors combined) can actually use less electricity overall than a standard portable vacuum. Even though the most powerful central power units use up to 13.5 amps of electricity, you will have to vacuum less often.

The deep cleaning removes more dirt and allergens each cleaning, and the dirty air is exhausted outdoors or filtered to the basement or garage. At an electric rate of 10 cents per kilowatt-hour, a super-powerful 13.5-amp unit costs about 8 cents per 30 minutes use. (Your electric rate may vary.)

To save the most electricity, vent the power unit indoors. The outlet air is very clean.

Deep cleaning carpet and furniture provides a hidden savings. Residual dirt left in fabrics is a primary cause of wear. With deep cleaning, carpeting and furniture will last longer and look better.

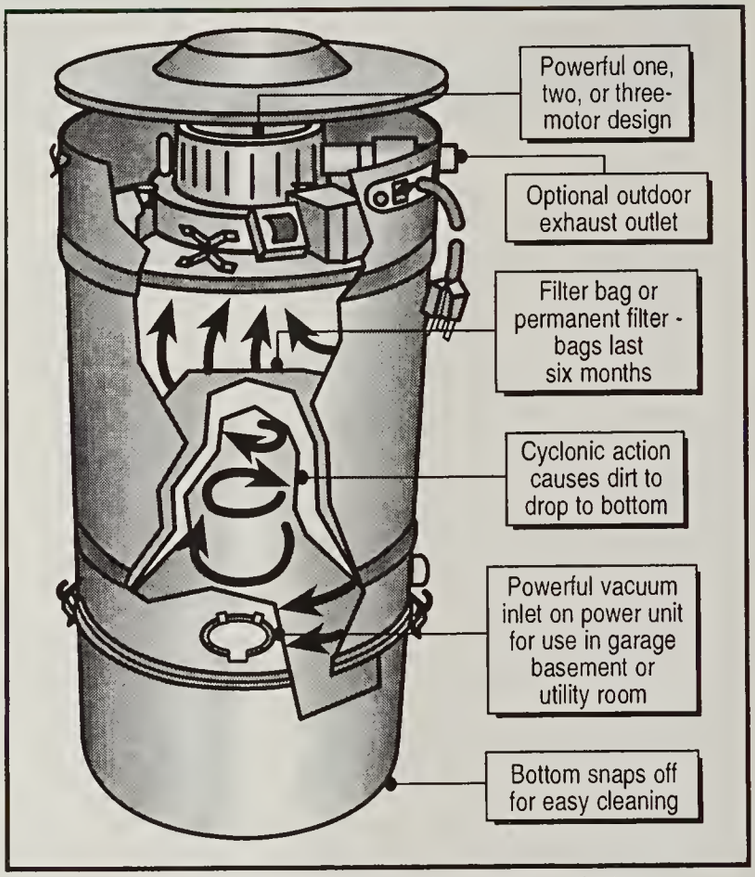
Most central vacuum cleaner kits include every part — elbows, screws, wires, fitting, etc. — except for the readily available 2-inch PVC pipe. Mount the power unit (only three feet high) on a wall near an electric outlet. Run the main PVC pipe under the floor or in the attic with branches to wall inlets. You can easily run it to a second story through a closet, cold air return duct, laundry chute or behind built-in appliances.

There are several filtration designs. One type uses a large disposable paper filter bag. Since it is big (up to six gallons), it has to be changed only twice a year. These special high filtration bags are very effective for allergy sufferers.

Another common design uses inverted cyclonic "funnel cone" action. The internal shape of the unit causes the incoming dirty air to spin around very fast inside the power unit. Centrifugal force pushes dust and dirt out to the sides and it drops into a canister. The canister must be emptied three to four times per year.

Some of the most effective types use a combination of bags, filters and cyclonic action. If you vent the exhaust from the power unit to outdoors, the type of air cleaning method is not critical. Its main purpose is just to protect the suction motors from excessive dirt.

Cleaning power of central vacuum systems is determined by suction (inches of water lift) and air flow rate (cubic feet per minute or cfm). Through engineering calculations, these figures result in a cleaning power rating called air power watts. Some models have as much as 160 inches of lift, 245 cfm and over 500 air watts. Generally, the higher the air watts, the better the deep cleaning.


Powerful one, two, or three-motor design
Optional outdoor exhaust outlet
Filter bag or permanent filter - bags last six months
Cyclonic action causes dirt to drop to bottom
Powerful vacuum inlet on power unit for use in garage basement or utility room
Bottom snaps off for easy cleaning

Powerful, quiet central vacuum deep cleans entire house

All central vacuum systems use safe low-voltage wires to automatically turn on the central power unit when you push the hose into the wall inlet. For the simplest wiring, just tape the low-voltage wire to the 2-inch pipe. A new convenience feature is a power touch handle with a built-in on-off switch. This allows you to switch off the power unit without having to pull the hose out of the wall.

Another convenience feature is an optional Vac-Pan. It is a long flat inlet mounted in the baseboard. On smooth floors, like a kitchen, you just sweep dirt over to the Vac-Pan and it is sucked away. If you need a powerful vacuum in your workroom in a garage or basement, locate the power unit there. Select a model with a built-in inlet on the power unit. This inlet has super-powerful suction since there is no long pipe resistance.

Write for Update Bulletin No. 740 showing a buyer's guide of 11 central vacuum cleaner manufacturers listing type of filtration, cleaning power, features, installation layouts and prices. Please include $2.00 and a business-size self-addressed, stamped envelope. Send to James Dulley, Carolina Country, 6906 Royalgreen Dr., Cincinnati, OH 45244.

To rush bulletin delivery or to read 150 previous columns, check the World Wide Web at http://www.dulley.com.

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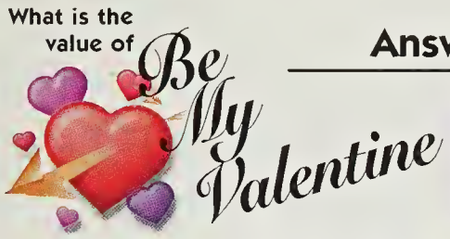

Answer to February's puzzle

B	E	M	Y	V	A	L	N	T	I
2	4	0	3	9	5	6	8	1	7

B + E + M + Y + V + A + L + E + N + T + I + N + E
2 + 4 + 0 + 3 + 9 + 5 + 6 + 4 + 8 + 1 + 7 + 8 + 4 = 61

~~E~~ ~~L~~ ~~A~~ ~~T~~ E (20) – T A L E (16) = E (4)

~~I~~ ~~N~~ ~~T~~ ~~E~~ ~~N~~ T (29) – N I N E (27) = T T (2) Therefore T = 1

~~T~~ ~~E~~ N (13) – T (1) – E (4) = N (8)

0 + 1 + 2 + 3 + 4 + 5 + 6 + 7 + 8 + 9 = 45
Therefore the 10 letters B + E + M + Y + V + A + L + N + T + I = 45
Two additional E's = 8 (4 each)
One additional N = 8
Therefore B + E + M + Y + V + A + L + E + N + T + I + N + E = 61

There are numerous other solutions, including

N I N E (27) – N N E (20) = I (7)

L I T T L E (25) – I T T E (13) = L L (12) Therefore L = 6

T A L E (16) – T L E (11) = A (5)

A B L E (17) – A L E (15) = B (2)

V A L L E Y (33) – A L L E (21) = V Y (12)

M A N Y (16) – A N (13) = M Y (3)

This leaves the letters M, V, and Y, and the digits 0, 3, and 9. MY = 3 and VY = 12.
Therefore V = 9, Y = 3, and M = 0.

Answer to April's puzzles

(from page 24)

DOMI–NO.'S

1 3 9 2 9
N I A C A

3 x
1

2 0 8 7 7
S S E U C

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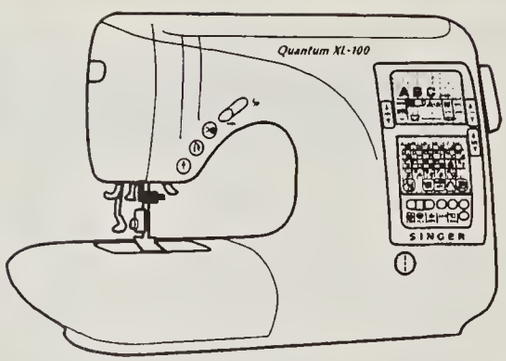

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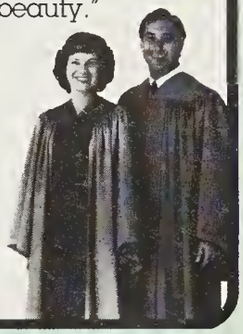

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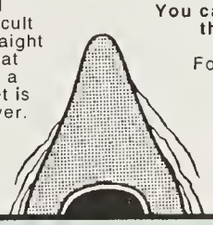

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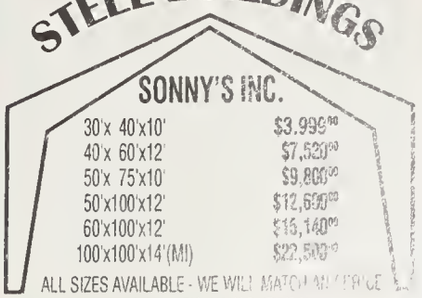

Hank's Gardening Guide by Hank Smith

With spring awakening, garden activity becomes more lively. There's a strong interest in getting seed and plants into the soil. Take time to enjoy the results of your autumn labor: spring-flowering trees, shrubs and bulbs. Much of the success of the summer garden and lawn depend upon what is done this month and the next. Nurseries and garden centers are filled with flower and vegetable plants, seed, sprays and dusts, and fertilizers. An old German proverb promotes a wise philosophy for the gardener: April and May are the keys to the whole year.

Feed azaleas

When azaleas have finished blooming, feed them with special azalea-camellia fertilizer. Make light applications beneath spread of branches, taking care not to get any on the stems. Azaleas are easily injured by fertilizers. Soak fertilizer into soil with water from a garden hose. Repeat the fertilizer application once or twice in two-to-four week intervals until early June.

Weed control

If you are a gardener not opposed to the use of chemicals, spot treat established weeds in the lawn with nonselective herbicide. For ease of application, pour the amount of weed killer needed into an empty plastic detergent bottle and squirt directly onto the offending weed and nothing else. Dispose of detergent bottle after use.

Dogwoods are undemanding

Dogwoods adapt to most soils that are not alkaline. They grow best in acid soil of fertile loam high in organic matter. They suffer during droughts and require good drainage. Dogwoods usually give good results when planted as understory trees in a stand of either hardwoods or pines that provide moderate shade. Dense shade will result in poor flowering. Gently sloping ground benefits dogwoods.

Planting annuals

Dig a hole 1½ times as deep and wide as the container in which the plant is growing. Pour rich garden soil and/or organic matter as compost into the bottom of the planting hole to create a small mound. Set the annual on top of the mound, gently loosening its roots. Fill in around the plant with soil by firmly packing it around the root system. Set plant slightly higher than it grew in the container because it will settle in new loose soil. Make a light application of a slow-release complete fertilizer. Keep plants well watered.

Vegetables

Seed of summer vegetables to plant now are squash, okra, pole and bush beans, sweet corn, and cucumber. Also set out started plants of tomato, pepper and eggplant. If you lack space for a vegetable garden, try growing a few vegetables discretely placed in the flower garden or in containers where they will receive at least six hours of daily sunlight. Staked-or-caged tomato plants make good tall background plants for lower growing annuals.

Hang the potato

Few plants develop as rapidly as the sweet potato. If you enjoy watching plants grow, a hanging basket of sweet potatoes will provide much satisfaction. It's especially appropriate for children who may become impatient in the time it takes to grow plants from seed. To start a plant, stick three toothpicks firmly into the potato at equal distances around the tuber. Lower it into the mouth of a fruit jar of water so that one end is submerged. Within about two weeks, roots will begin to develop from the end of the tuber in water. Sprouts of leaves will soon grow from the other end. Plant the tuber in a hanging basket in a loose porous growing medium. Keep well watered. In about six weeks, you'll have a lush vine. If kept in a warm location the vine should give about six months of enjoyment.

Spring-flowering bulbs

If you didn't get around to treating your early spring-blooming bulbs with time-release fertilizer last fall, keep a close eye on them. As blooms fade, fertilize plants with a strong dose of bone meal or super phosphate. This assures a good display of blooms next spring. Resist the temptation to cut back foliage after flowers have faded. The foliage stores food in the bulb to benefit next year's flower.

Normal leaf fall

Don't be alarmed if evergreens such as photinia, Southern magnolia, gardenia, cleyera and abelia are shedding leaves. This is natural leaf drop. Mature leaves are being replaced by new growth. For the sake of disease and leaf control, as well as neatness in the landscape, rake dead leaves from your yard.

My sincere thanks to kind readers who have written to extend sympathy since the death of my wife Sara. Friends met face-to-face and via the written word have meant much to me. Grace and agape. — Hank Smith

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New computer virus: "bad puns" via e-mail

How would you react if you cranked up your computer one morning to find that a friend had sent you an e-mail missive titled simply: "Bad Puns"?

Would you raise your eyebrows, shake your head and move on to the next message, saving the posted puns until you've had at least one more cup of coffee?

Or perhaps you'd stiffen your upper lip and open the file, figuring the rest of your day would have to be an improvement if you started out with a dose of "the lowest form of humor."

Or you might respond as I did recently: eagerly clicking that cursor in anticipation of momentary amusement.

My message contained tales that had been e-mailed to my friend from sources in Washington, D.C., where it had arrived with a list of several other past and future recipients. I don't know where it originated or where else it had stopped on its route through cyberspace, because I haven't learned to decipher those odd e-mail codes.

Even so, it was clear that these "Bad Puns" had carried that label from the get-go, and yet the material was quickly passed along from one mailbox to another. Maybe they aren't so bad, after all, I thought. On the other hand, they could be so perfectly awful that all these folks couldn't resist inflicting them on their friends. Misery loves company, you know.

I realized, too, that the title could have been applied as a playful redundancy, subtly suggesting that there is no such thing as a good pun.

I think puns are fun, whether they prompt a giggle or a groan. Either way, they almost always leave me wondering whether their anonymous authors are seriously disturbed or merely clever with words. So (you guessed it!) I can't resist sharing some of the e-mail puns here.

I think No. 3 is the best of the lot. You can decide for yourself.

Puns almost always leave me wondering whether their anonymous authors are seriously disturbed or merely clever with words.

"Bad Puns"

No. 1 - A group of chess enthusiasts had checked into a hotel, and were standing in the lobby discussing their recent tournament victories. After about an hour, the manager came out of the office and asked them to disperse. "But why?" they asked.

"Because," he said, "I can't stand chess nuts boasting in an open foyer."

No. 2 - A hungry African lion was roaming through the jungle looking for something to eat. He came across two men. One was sitting under a tree and reading a book; the other was typing away on his typewriter. The lion quickly pounced on the man reading the book and devoured him. Even the king of the jungle knows that readers digest and writers cramp.

No. 3 - A man went to his dentist because he was having a problem with his mouth. The dentist examined him and said, "That new upper plate I put in for you six months ago is eroding. What have you been eating?"

The man replied, "All I can think of is that about four months ago my wife made some asparagus and put some stuff on it that was delicious: Hollandaise sauce. I loved it so much I now put it on everything —- meat, toast, fish, vegetables, everything!"

"Well," said the dentist, "that's probably the problem. Hollandaise sauce is made with lots of lemon juice, which can be highly corrosive. It is eating away your upper plate. I'll make you a new plate, and this time we'll use chrome."

"Why chrome?" the patient asked.

"Everyone knows that there's no plate like chrome for the Hollandaise!"

No. 4 - A guy goes to a psychiatrist. "Doc, I keep having these alternating recurring dreams," he said. "First I'm a teepee; then I'm a wigwam; then I'm a teepee; then I'm a wigwam. It's driving me crazy! What's wrong with me?"

"It's very simple," the doctor replied. "You're two tents."

No. 5 - An Indian chief had three wives and all of them became pregnant at the same time. The first gave birth to a boy. The chief was so elated he built her a teepee made of deer hide. A few days later, the second wife gave birth, also to a boy. The chief was very happy. He built her a teepee made of antelope hide. The third wife gave birth a few days later, but the chief kept the details of the birth a secret. He built this wife a two-story teepee made of a hippopotamus hide. He challenged the tribe to guess what had occurred. Many tried without success. Finally, one young brave declared that the third wife had given birth to twin boys.

"That's correct," said the chief. "How did you figure it out?"

The warrior answered, "It's elementary. The value of the squaw of the hippopotamus is equal to the sons of the squaws of the other two hides."

No. 6 - A doctor made it a habit to stop off at his favorite bar on his way home each day to enjoy a hazelnut daiquiri. The bartender expected him and always had the drink waiting at precisely 5:03 p.m. One afternoon, the bartender was dismayed to find he had run out of hazelnut extract. Thinking quickly, he threw together a daiquiri made with hickory nuts and set it on the bar. When the doctor came in, he took one sip of the drink and exclaimed, "This isn't a hazelnut daiquiri!"

"No, I'm sorry," replied the bartender, "it's a hickory daiquiri, doc."

No. 7 - There was a man who entered a newspaper's pun contest. He sent in ten different puns, in the hope that at least one would win. As it turned out, no pun in ten did.

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Submitted by Charles W. Henderson, Broadway

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1 medium onion, chopped

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1 can pork and beans (15-ounce)
1 can lima beans (15-ounce, do not drain)

Add and mix:
⅓ cup brown sugar
½ cup catsup
½ cup BBQ sauce
½ teaspoon chili powder
1 tablespoon prepared mustard
Salt and pepper to taste

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This is one offer you won't want to miss! For a limited time only, you can order any of these garden products and get a second order of the same item FREE! So when you order 20 Creeping Myrtle for $4.98, you get 20 more Creeping Myrtle FREE! Order 5 Mixed Carnations for $2.98 and get 5 more Mixed Carnations FREE! Try any of the products on these two pages and we'll double your order FREE!

Are we crazy? Not at all. We're so sure you'll be thrilled with your order and come back for more that we're willing to let our best-sellers go at rock bottom prices. Plus, everything you order is GUARANTEED FOR LIFE! This offer is available only for a limited time . . . so HURRY!

(SEE PREVIOUS PAGE FOR ORDER FORM)

Hardy Perennial Lilies

Hardy Perennial Lilies are surprisingly hardy and dependable. They return every year without lifting or replanting, producing bigger clumps and more flowers. They're great for naturalizing, too. Tall, elegant and easy to grow in full sun or partial shade. Bloom all summer long! 10-12cm. **#05033 10/$7.98**

Creeping Phlox

Enjoy a rainbow of spring color with this gorgeous perennial groundcover. Creeping Phlox blankets your landscape with dense, evergreen foliage and bright red, pink, white or lavender blooms. Get 24 plants for the price of 12 when you order now. 1-year-old plants. **#02717 12/$4.98**

Hybrid Poplar

This fast-growing "wonder tree" grows 4-6' every year and reaches 20-30' in just 5 years! Hybrid Poplars offer shade, wind protection and a super-fast source of firewood. And now you can buy 3 and get 3 more FREE! You can't lose! 2-3' trees grow up to 75' tall. **#03558 3/$7.98**

Trumpet Vine

Masses of gorgeous flowers wake up your garden in a revelry of eye-catching red-orange blooms and dark, sea-green foliage. This high-climber is perfect for covering fences, lampposts, walls, and more. Attracts hummingbirds, too! Bareroot. **#10868 1/$2.98**

Creeping Myrtle

Creeping Myrtle boasts blue flowers floating on a carpet of green foliage. This colorful, popular ground cover flourishes in sun or shade – perfect for your yard's trouble spots! Twenty plants cover 40 square feet. So when you buy 20, you'll get 20 FREE – enough to cover 80 square feet! 1-year-old plants. **#02758 20/$4.98**

Ground Cover Daylilies

These colorful and carefree Ground Cover Daylilies spread quickly with 12"-18" high, long-lasting, fiery-red blooms. Five blooming-size plants cover 10 square feet in well-drained soil and full sun or partial shade. Bareroot. **#02592 5/$5.98**

Mixed Carnations

Vibrant colors and a spicy scent make these frilly, ruffled blooms irresistible in your garden and in cut-flower arrangements. And with this limited-time offer, you get 5 FREE plants for every 5 you order. If you've never grown Carnations, this is your chance! 1-year-old plants. **#02626 5/$2.98**

Hanging Strawberry Plant and Basket

Now you can grow Strawberries anywhere there's sun and a basket hook! You get three vigorous plants in their own hanging basket. 1-year-old. **#03251 1/$2.98**

More Great Bargains On Next Side!